

Another first for women
Former San Francisco AIDS doctor
Julie Gerberding tapped to head CDC.
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Where there's a will...
SFSU student Joseph
Mullin wins scholarship.
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Seen and not heard
Silent Film Festival expands
to two days at the Castro.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Gay men unaware of their AIDS infection status

by Ed Susman,
UPI Science News

Most young gay men in the United States are unaware they are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, government researchers attending the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain said Monday, July 8.

"Clearly, unrecognized infection with human immunodeficiency virus is a problem in men who have sex with men," said Duncan MacKeller, an epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. "A substantial number of young gay and bisexual men of all races have HIV, do not know they are infected, do not think they are at risk, are not getting tested, and may be unknowingly transmitting the virus to their partners," he said.

In a presentation at the XIV International AIDS Conference, MacKeller reported:

- Of 5,719 young gay men tested in several American cities – Baltimore, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, and Seattle – 573 or about 10 percent of them tested positive for HIV. "That is a high percentage of infected individuals," MacKeller told United Press International, "but what is more alarming is that most of those young men – aged 15 to 29 – aren't aware of their status."

- Of those 573 infected individuals, 440 men or 77 percent were unaware they were infected.

- Broken down by ethnic group, 91 percent of gay or bisexual African American men were unaware if they were infected, 70 percent of gay or bisexual Latinos were unaware of their HIV status, and 60 percent of gay or bisexual whites did not know whether they had the disease.

MacKeller said 73 percent of the men surveyed had undergone HIV testing, but 55 percent either never had a test or had not been tested in more than a year. He said if a previous test had rendered an HIV-negative showing, the men may have perceived they were free of getting the disease.

"What we wonder is what is happening at the encounter these people had at the testing clinic and what their counselors told them," MacKeller said. "We have got to make sure that these counselors are on the top of their game when they talk to people who have a negative test."

However, Phill Wilson, executive director of the African American

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XIV International AIDS Conference opens in Barcelona

Somber report says much more prevention needed by Bob Roehr



An estimated 200-300 demonstrators from different countries marched in Parc Montjuïc in Barcelona, Spain, site of the XIV International AIDS Conference, on Sunday, July 7 demanding AIDS drugs for every nation. The conference opened Sunday and continues through Friday.

We now realize that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is at an early stage of development and that its long-term evolution is still unclear," read a new UNAIDS report released on the eve of the XIV International AIDS Conference. An additional 65 million people are likely to die of the disease by 2020, absent dramatically expanded prevention and treatment efforts.

"In southern Africa, HIV prevalence has not yet stabilized at some natural limit. HIV rates are still on the rise, with HIV infections occurring among more than 40 percent of all pregnant women, in some locations. In West Africa, apparent stability at lower levels has also turned out to be an illusion, with the epidemic now taking off again," wrote UNAIDS director Peter Piot in the document's preface.

Among young people, those aged 15 to 24, in the hardest hit regions of sub-Saharan Africa, women are twice as likely to be infected with HIV as are men. That is largely the result of older men having sex with younger women. Average life expectancy has plummeted 20-30 years in the hardest hit countries and it continues to drop.

"This report refutes the comfortable as-

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LGBTQ youth to 'take over' the city

by Zak Szymanski

When hundreds of new LGBTQ faces storm San Francisco next weekend, rest assured that these fierce queer travelers plan on "Takin' It Over" – the theme of this year's Young, Loud, and Proud conference sponsored by Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center.

YLP, now in its seventh year, is the only large-scale conference of its kind produced and run entirely by youth. Because many LGBTQ youth encounter isolation and lack of support in their own communities, the conference often provides a vital lifeline, empowering LGBTQ young people by providing them with opportunities to connect with others and strategize policy and ideals for their schools, home towns, and beyond. Previous workshops have addressed, for instance, how to form gay-straight alliances in high schools.

The conference takes place Friday, July 19 through Sunday July 21, at Horace Mann Middle School in San Francisco.

This year's workshops – newly referred to as "teaching and learning circles" – number more than 75 and run the gamut from the personal to the political.

"We've got some circles that deal with self-



Participants at LYRIC's 1999 Young, Loud, and Proud conference.

harm, others that talk about identity, and others that are focused on activism," said Maggie Diaz-Monroy, a YLP organizer.

HIV advocacy, hate crimes, the anti-war movement, and writing as activism are just some of the specific topics addressed. Additionally, a safer sex workshop will be presented by the staff of Good Vibrations.

The conference kicks off Friday at 450 Guerrero Street with a "first round" poetry slam.

On Saturday at Horace Mann (at 23rd and Valencia), registration and breakfast are from 9 to 10 a.m., and the conference welcome goes until 11 a.m. Keynote speakers are Alex Lee, 24, a Chinese and Taiwanese American transgender activist who is studying law to fight the prison industrial complex; and Ron McCan, youth program and policy coordinator for the San Francisco Youth Commission.

Saturday's teaching and learning circles are from 11:15 a.m. through 3 p.m., with a break for lunch. Afternoon performances by youth are from 5-5:30 p.m., and a dance as well as poetry slam finals run from 8 p.m. until midnight.

Sunday's schedule includes a town hall meeting from 10-11 a.m., more teaching and learning circles, brunch, and a closing session. The conference wraps up at 3:30 p.m.

More than 600 youth are expected at YLP, and they will be coming from as far away as Canada, Boston, and Hawaii. YLP is inclusive of all genders and races, and is free for youth 25 and under. Adults are asked to pay \$50. Pre-registration is recommended for everyone; call (415) 703-6150, ext. 21 or 28.

For more information on YLP or LYRIC, visit www.lyric.org. ▼

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS



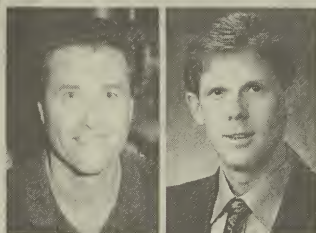
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HRC to honor Pelosi, lang at annual dinner

by Matthew S. Bajko

In recognition of their contributions to advancing the rights of the gay community, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and recording artist k.d. lang will be honored by the Human Rights Campaign at its annual dinner in San Francisco later this month.

Pelosi, who has represented San Francisco in the House of Representatives since 1987, and lang, who was one of the first women musicians to publicly come out of the closet, will both receive HRC's Equality Award. Actress Christine Ebersole, winner of a Tony Award and an Outer Critics Circle Award in 2001 for her role in the Broadway musical revival *42nd Street*, will speak and perform at the black tie dinner.

"We are thrilled to have people of such high caliber and extraordinary talent be part of this remarkable event," said HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch. "This evening will not only be incredibly entertaining, but it will also honor those who have helped advance our movement."

As the House Minority Whip and the highest-ranking woman in the history of the United States Congress, Pelosi has continued to work on and support such issues as civil rights legislation and AIDS funding legislation.

She is a co-sponsor of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would expand federal jurisdiction to reach serious, violent hate crimes; co-sponsor of the Employment Non-

Discrimination Act, a bill that would provide basic protections against workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; and is a co-chair of the AIDS Task Force of the House Democratic Caucus.

"She has supported several different pieces of civil rights legislation specifically related to human rights," David Dancer, who is organizing the dinner, said as to why Pelosi is being honored this year. "She has voted for several things the HRC had been pushing on the Hill. Another reason is she is the highest ranking woman on the Hill and is standing out in her own community."

During the dinner, HRC will also recognize several local groups and leaders for their work on behalf of the LGBT community. The nine-member Queer Youth Action Team will be honored for its work to decrease homophobia in Contra Costa County schools. The LGBT youth activists meet on a weekly basis to create and

implement strategies to carry out the provisions of AB537 within local school districts. The bill, the Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000, makes it illegal to harass or discriminate against students based on their real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity in California schools.

Also being honored are Pat Martel, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission general manager, and Dana Van Gorder, a legislative affairs director at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. As president and vice president of the LGBT Community Center board of directors respectively, Martel and Van Gorder oversaw the planning and construction of the project.

The dinner will start at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 20 at the Fairmont Hotel. Tickets cost \$175 per person and are available by phone through Box Office Tickets at 1-800-494-TIXS or online at www.boxofficetickets.com. ▼

Bears head to the river for fun

by Cynthia Laird

If it's mid-July, that must mean it's time for the Lazy Bear Weekend in Guerneville and this year's several days of relaxation and partying along the Russian River will take place starting Wednesday, July 17 and continuing through Monday, July 22.

Harry Lit, of Castrobear Presents, which produces the annual fundraising event, said this year's event will be more inclusive than ever before.

"We've included a lot of things," Lit told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We've got Viva Variety this year and it's not just a high testosterone thing."

Bears and their friends will have ample time to relax, and to participate in several parties, all to benefit area charities. Co-presenters this year are the Sacramento Valley Bears as well as co-founders Lit and Allen Eggman. Some of the shows scheduled include Bear-A-Go-Go, the Connie Champagne Show, and Viva Variety. Interested attendees can purchase the popular "dog tags" which provide discounts for some of the parties and on merchandise, Lit added.

Last year, the \$50 tags sold out in 24 hours, so Lit and company have upped the order and plenty should be available this year. Some local businesses in Guerneville will also be giving discounts to people who show their tags, he said.

Last year's event was attended by more than 3,500 people, and Lit said they are expecting 4,000-5,000 people this year.

"It has become the largest event in Guerneville," he added.

Lit also said that this year's event will be dedicated to "a fallen comrade who was part of our community," Flight 93 hero Mark Bingham. Some of the proceeds from the weekend will go to the Mark Bingham Leadership Fund.

"Mark loved bears, and bears loved him back," Lit said on his Web site, www.lazybearweekend.com. The Web site also includes a list of planned activities and other information.

Other beneficiaries include the Ken Day Fund of Sacramento, Positive Resource Center, AIDS Emergency Fund of Sonoma County, Under One Roof, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence-Guerneville chapter, and Scarlet Letter Services. ▼

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16th annual AIDS Walk set for next weekend

by Zak Szymanski

People who are concerned about the financial struggle faced by many HIV/AIDS nonprofits this year – yet who simultaneously suffer from donor and event fatigue – will be happy to know that the 16th annual AIDS Walk is just around the corner.

Produced by MZA Events Inc. in conjunction with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, AIDS Walk has the unique distinction of being a low-key, all-inclusive stroll that is also one of the biggest fundraisers for many area organizations. Last year's walk attracted 25,000 participants and brought in \$3.8 million, despite the fact that there is no minimum fundraising requirement for teams or individuals. A large amount of the money raised – nearly \$1 million – is granted to dozens of Bay Area HIV/AIDS organizations besides SFAF. Benefiting organizations this year include AIDS Emergency Fund, Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center, Dolores Street Community Services, Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, New Leaf: Services for Our Community, Positive Resource Center, Project Open Hand, Proyecto Contra SIDA por Vida, Shanti, Stop AIDS Project, Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, and Women Organized to Respond to Life-threat-

ening Diseases, among others.

"Each year we slightly break our past record. We're the only AIDS Walk in the country that consistently has record-breaking results," said Redge Norton, spokesman for SFAF.

The 10-kilometer walk will launch from Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow on the morning of Sunday, July 21.

Although SFAF, like most organizations, has been affected by post-September 11 economics, AIDS

Unlike bike-a-thon fundraisers (SFAF's AIDS/LifeCycle, for instance), the walk requires no intense training, and can be done by families with children, people in wheelchairs, senior citizens, and anyone else who simply wants to enjoy a day in the park.

Check-in for the walk begins at 9 a.m., and an aerobic warm-up takes place at 9:30. Then, at 10:30 a.m., participants step off to begin the walk, which takes them through the park, all the way toward the beach,

"It brings people together around a common goal."

Walk registration is right on target, according to Norton, who also emphasized that people can show up and sign up on the day of the event.

"Ideally we'd like people to raise money beforehand but let's say you're busy and realize that AIDS Walk is happening in a few days; you can show up that day, self-pledge any amount, and drop off your contribution in monitored buckets around the park," said Norton, who added that there is no one way to raise money for the walk. "People do it many different ways. They can get sponsored by the kilometer or do it by flat donation."

The success of AIDS Walk most likely is owed to its tradition of attracting all types of people.

and back again. A sizable number of people return within two hours, in time to enjoy the post-AIDS Walk concert at Sharon Meadow. Local and national celebrities are expected to speak and perform. Weather permitting, many participants bring picnic lunches or grills and stay to enjoy the scenery and people. At 2:45 p.m., there will be an announcement of the funds raised by AIDS Walk 2002.

"It's a really great day for everybody," said Norton. "It's not a race, and not competitive. It just brings people together around a common goal."

More information on registration, donations, and volunteering is available at www.aidswalk.net.



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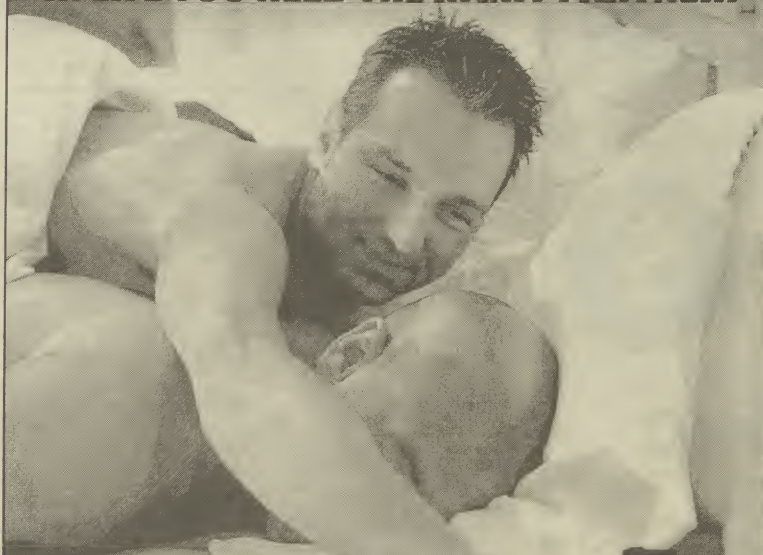
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Leno's entertainment commission approved

by Joe Dignan

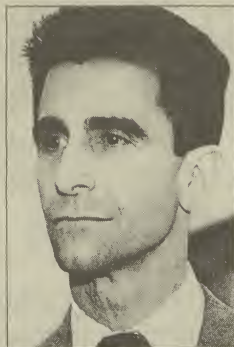
San Francisco's nightlife is in decline. It has been dying, slowly, since the rave scene began to sputter in the late 1990s. Terrance Alan, who is the president of San Francisco's Late Night Coalition, said recently that "everybody I know who goes on a vacation to New York – even after September 11 – comes back and sits in my office with tears in their eyes," because the nightlife is so much more vibrant there.

There are two main reasons. First, the economy is in a downturn, and partying is expensive. But the other reason there are so few new clubs is the way that San Francisco issues entertainment and after-hours permits.

There's not much anybody can do about the economy, but on Monday, July 8, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved legislation that should, eventually, make it easier to open new places to go at night. The vote was 8-3, with Supervisors Sophie Maxwell, Leland Yee, and Tony Hall voting against the measure.

The legislation, authored by Supervisor Mark Leno, will create an entertainment commission to oversee nightlife, issue permits, and promote exciting things to do in San Francisco.

Leno, who has been working



Supervisor Mark Leno

on the legislation for nearly two years, was pleased with the vote.

"I think it will bring a sense of planning and policy-making, as well as a more objective approach, to issuance of entertainment-related permits by city government," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

As it is now, all permits are both issued and enforced by the Police Department. Because the cops issue the permits, and then have to carry away the drunks and the overdose cases, break up the fights, and deal with the traffic jams and answer the complaints from the neighbors, they have little interest in issuing new permits to make more work for themselves later on.

Because the dot-com boom fueled live-work construction in areas that were previously deserted at night, just about every potential club venue now has full-time neighbors – vocal neighbors ready to complain about noise and rowdy behavior.

So, many permit applications are often refused after closed-door deliberations between the station captains and the chief of police.

Alan said the planning and permitting process is set up so that "we allow the loudest whiner to set policy," regardless of what's best for the city as a whole.

Because permitting has become such a contentious process, the Police Department wants out

of it, and supported Leno's measure, which would bring the deliberations out into the open and under the aegis of San Francisco's sunshine ordinance.

The existing permitting process has failed spectacularly in recent months.

Bruno's Restaurant in the Mission almost closed because of a bureaucratic snafu.

Bar owners were busted for providing coffee to patrons after hours during the recent World Cup soccer matches. It now takes at least three months and costs a minimum of \$1,500 to get an after-hours permit, and they hadn't complied.

San Francisco even sent Canada's Cirque du Soleil running to Oakland. The managers of the Quebec-based circus, no strangers to the perverse delights of bureaucratic entanglement, finally threw their Gallic hands in the air after wrestling with San Francisco's bureaucracy and fled across the bay to do their performances.

Opening a new club is even harder.

The city's largest and most popular dance club at 177 Townsend closed last weekend, and there won't be a new venue nearby to replace it. The closest thing going is a recycling of the old Sound Factory space at 525 Harrison Street on Saturday nights, to be called Palladium, by gay club promoter Gus Bean.

Bean had considered building a new club from the ground up. But, said Bean's assistant producer Juan Garcia, "It's way too tedious a process to open a new space, and you have so many people working against you – including the neighbors."

Leno's commission will make it easier to open new venues by including representatives from most of the groups who care about what happens to San Francisco's nightlife. The legislation calls for the commission to be made up of two representatives from the entertainment business, two from public health, one neighborhood advocate, one urban planner, and

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Queer in prison event Wed.

by Zak Szymanski

From rape to healthcare neglect to punishment based on sexual orientation, it is clear that prison issues should be as relevant to the gay rights movement as any other prominent battle.

On Wednesday, July 17, the Trans and Gender Variant Committee and the HIV and Hepatitis C Committee of California Prison Focus invite the community to learn more about conditions for LGBT people in prison at "Locked Out: Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgenders Behind Bars," an evening of discussion, first-hand accounts, and performance at the LGBT Community Center at 1800 Market Street at 7 p.m.

Former prisoners, advocates, and activists will all be featured, including Linda Evans, the lesbian political prisoner and anti-imperialist activist held for 16 years before President Clinton released her as one of his last acts in office. Also speaking is Veronika Cauley,

transgender rights advocate and candidate for San Francisco supervisor in District 8; Judy Greenspan, longtime prisoners' rights advocate and political organizer; and Antoine Mayhan, community activist and HIV-positive former prisoner. Transgender hip-hop poets Marcus Rene Van and Jaycub Perez will also perform a short number.

Issues discussed will include the denial of visitation rights for domestic partners of prisoners, discrimination faced by transgender prisoners, physical and mental abuse by prison staff and inmates, the epidemic proportions of HIV and hepatitis C in prison, and the growing prison population in the United States. Former prisoners are also invited to speak out during an open mike session of the event.

Locked Out will be held in the community center's ceremonial room on the fourth floor. The event is free and open to all, and wheelchair accessible. Food and nonalcoholic beverages will be provided. ▼

Citing budget deficit, Dufty spurns public financing for supe race

by Cynthia Laird

Bevan Dufty announced Monday, July 8 that while he qualifies for public financing in his bid to become District 8 supervisor, he will reject the city funds and run a grassroots campaign.

Dufty, one of several LGBT candidates running to replace Supervisor Mark Leno on the board, said he decided against the public money because of the city's budget deficit.

"I have concern over the city's fiscal situation," Dufty told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Right now, for me, it's not the right thing."

Dufty emphasized that he supports public financing and is not critical of other candidates who qualify for and accept the city funds.

"I've thought very carefully about the kind of campaign I want to run. I need to demonstrate to people that I'm looking at the big picture," he added. "This is not the time to ask San Francisco taxpayers, whether they live in District 8 or elsewhere, to bear the cost of running political campaigns."

The city is struggling with a \$175 million deficit that may result in cuts to vital services, layoffs of city workers, and increased fees for everything from dog licenses to marriage licenses and domestic partner registrations.

Departing from usual campaign practices, Dufty has committed to a grassroots fundraising effort, limiting donations to \$100 from individual citizens only, and not accepting contributions from people who don't either live or work in San Francisco or from businesses, corporations, lobbyists, or political action committees.

City law permits contributions up to \$500 from any individual or entity. Dufty said his policy is far more stringent than what city law allows. Adhering to these guidelines, he said his campaign has raised more than \$25,000 in just over two weeks.

"My sense is that people in the city are tired of even an appearance of special interest money buying access, and are willing to support a different approach to political fundraising. This strong early showing certainly encourages me," he said.

Dufty, who was director of neighborhood services under Mayor Willie Brown until his resignation last year, faces fellow LGBT candidates Eileen Hansen, Tom Radulovich, Shawn O'Hearn, and Veronika Cauley in the November race. Hansen narrowly lost to Leno in 2000. Radulovich serves as an elected member of the BART board of directors and has the backing of Leno in the race. O'Hearn has run unsuccessfully several times for the seat. Cauley, an African American transgender AIDS activist, is new to the political scene, though she has served on various city boards and commissions.

Reached Wednesday morning, Hansen told the *B.A.R.* that while she is well aware of the city's budget crisis, her campaign will take the public financing.

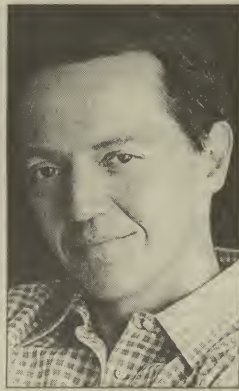
"I'm a longtime supporter of campaign finance reform and de-

lighted to see public financing come into being in San Francisco," Hansen said. "Certainly, I'm concerned about the budget crisis but I think public financing is appropriate."

Radulovich told the *B.A.R.* that he plans to stay below the spending limit and use public financing.

Dufty said the money that he's eligible for under the campaign law could be better put to city services.

"By Election Day I would be eligible to receive up to \$43,750 — money that otherwise could provide six children with child care for one year; 22 seniors with home-delivered meals for one year; 24 weeks of residential substance abuse treatment; or one year's salary for a Department of Public Works street cleaner," Dufty said. ▼



Bevan Dufty

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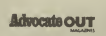
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OPEN FORUM

Picking our fights

The Senate Health Committee's confirmation hearing on surgeon general nominee Dr. Richard Carmona has been thorough. But serious questions linger about Carmona's qualifications for the position of "America's family doctor." He strikes us — and others — as sort of a "cowboy doctor." He has not disputed reports that he left two hospital jobs amid tensions with management, and his dual career as a sheriff's deputy and trauma surgeon seemingly put him at odds with most public health experts, who are often advocates for gun control and believe patient-doctor relationships should not be punitive or coercive. While he told senators that he would use the bully pulpit to speak out on issues like AIDS, we fear he will tow the Republican Party line of abstinence-only education instead of a comprehensive sex education program that includes information about birth control and abortion and on the proper use of condoms to prevent sexually transmitted diseases.

President Bush has said that Carmona's experience in law enforcement and in medicine will serve the nation well as it faces the threat of bioterrorism. We doubt that very much: Carmona, significantly, lacks experience in public health; we firmly believe such experience is mandatory for the most visible public health position in the federal government.

That said, we are pragmatic enough to realize that the Senate likely will confirm Carmona. Senators don't seem inclined to fight his nomination in the way they fought the nomination of Attorney General John Ashcroft. And, senators on the committee actually gave Carmona a pass in that no questions were asked of the nominee about his position on sex education or abortion — two hot-button topics.

Quite frankly, this country hasn't had an outstanding surgeon general since Dr. Joycelyn Elders served nearly a decade ago. Honest to a fault, Elders went out of her way to talk frankly about sex (including masturbation) and, ultimately, her outspokenness cost her the job. Elders was on the front lines raising the country's consciousness about AIDS and other health issues. She used the bully pulpit.

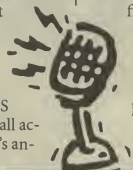
Carmona, if confirmed, will most likely be yet another in a line of mediocre Bush appointees.

On the flip side, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson — himself a mediocre Bush appointee — made a surprisingly excellent choice when he tapped Dr. Julie Gerberding to lead the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Gerberding, who went to the CDC in 1998, and is a former AIDS physician in San Francisco, was by all accounts unflappable during last fall's anthrax crisis. She is also deeply familiar with the AIDS epidemic (while in San Francisco she developed a model program for hospital workers exposed to the HIV virus through needle sticks). Her appointment requires Senate confirmation, which should not be a problem.

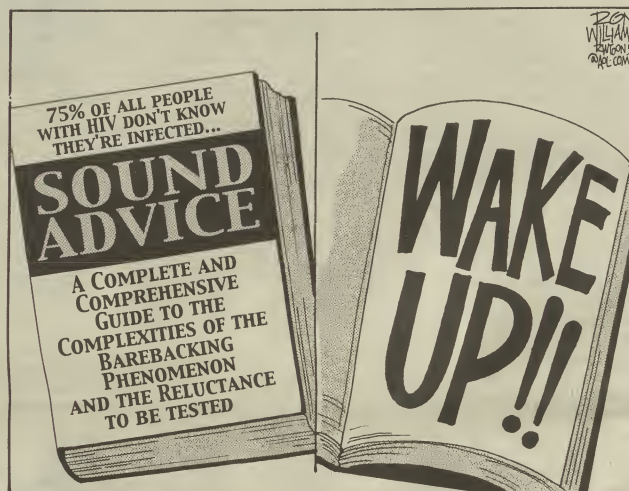
It is clear to us that during the Bush administration, we must pick our fights carefully.

fully and, with that in mind, we'd much rather build up capital with senators for a confirmation fight that has not yet happened but eventually will — the next nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court. In the long run, this is an infinitely more important fight, because the president and the Republicans will want to do everything in their power to keep the current conservative majority on the bench intact. And this is another, very important reason why it's crucial that Democrats keep control of the Senate in the upcoming congressional elections.

Does it disturb us that Carmona, who does not have a degree in public health, will be one of the administration's most visible faces on health matters? You bet it does. But Carmona's likely confirmation as surgeon general pales in comparison to what will be an all-out political war when it comes to the Supreme Court. ▼



Editorial



Do you care?

by Glennon Sutter

We have just celebrated that time of year when an abundance of rainbows cast themselves over the great city of San Francisco. For me, it is a time when I find myself mesmerized, even to the point of tears, because I am so happy to live here.

As I sat down to write this piece, my mind drifted back about 20 years. In 1983, I moved from rural Missouri to the other rainbow mecca known as New York City. I was 29, bold, starved for adventure, and landed in New York feeling similar to what I imagine that first astronaut felt, as he planted the red, white, and blue on the moon.

I quickly discovered that my new city would make me sit up straight, and take notice of a disaster that in the years to come would take the sail out of my rainbow flag. Sitting in my office at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, my exciting dreams of "doing" New York often came to a dead halt. Within a couple of years, the deca-induced gods were soon replaced with thin waif-like and sad specimens of what I knew to be human beings.

Desperately, the physicians and nurses I worked with tried their damndest to save these men and women from this disease we now call AIDS. Time passed. I watched my friends drop out of my life. My brother made his way to heaven, followed a few weeks later by my partner. Drug companies scrambled to find a cure: a cure that seems to have lost a lot of its scramble now. AZT — first a savior, then a killer — filled both patients and caregivers with fear. Fast-forward 10 years. AZT has a correct dose. DDI, DDC, and numerous other alphabet drugs are discovered. Then in 1995, fate changed

many lives, both those infected with HIV, and those who would become infected in spite of warnings. Protease inhibitors once again turned many of the waif-like men into the gods we hoped to be. I watched the Castro return from walkers and canes to bronze beauties, content with their new look, enabled by prescription steroids and a new definition of disability. With this new temporary cure, the safe sex police once again hit the Castro.

I personally never understood who came up with that term "safe sex." It rang in my ears the same way Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" to drugs did. I always thought that we would have reached a larger audience, if we as adults had preached "Safe, Consensual, and Responsible" sex instead. Safe seemed so impersonal, never really impacting on us the way I had hoped. It is 2002, and the city is swarming with an increase in HIV infections, sexually transmitted diseases of every kind, cases of syphilis out of control, and new cases of hepatitis A, B, and C being reported at alarming rates.

Once again the obituaries in this very newspaper are on the rise. Have we become complacent? Are we not taking care of ourselves? Has the inexpensive crystal methamphetamine (Tina) replaced our once vigilant care of our bodies and our health?

I want to ask all of you who read this a few questions that I think you should consider.

Do you know your HIV status? Do you care if you are positive or negative? (Yes, some people don't care!) Some guys think, "the positive guys are having all of the fun." They don't have to worry about getting HIV.

Some even try to get infected, making it a right of passage, with "bug chasing parties."

Next questions. Do you know what your T-cells and viral load are? Do you care? If your T-cells are below 250, are you on prophylactic drugs to help protect you from the dreaded killer pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP). Do you care? Have you been tested for hepatitis A, B, and C? Vaccinated for hepatitis A or B? Did you know your chances for a cure for hepatitis C are much greater if you know when you were infected and if that time is less than a year? Did you know that one of the best ways to contract hepatitis C is by sharing cocaine straws and bumpers? Do you care? Are you taking a drug holiday? Stopping your HIV medications without the direction of a physician? If you are, you are playing Russian roulette. Do you care?

Are you doing a little too much partying? Did you know that crystal methamphetamine is one of the most addictive drugs? Do you know anyone who has lost their job, their lover, their home, their car, their friends, or their health from its addiction? Do you care?

I'm asking all of you, my fellow San Franciscans, to go out, have fun, but don't be too excessive and keep an eye on your health. Be responsible. We can't handle more candlelight vigils, more memorial services, more sadness.

We are a proud people; at least that's what our parade suggested. So be proud. Proud of yourselves. Proud to be alive. Proud to show our younger generation that we care. Do you care? Only you can answer that question. I will answer it. Yes, I care. That is why I wrote this. ▼

Guest Opinion



LETTERS

Self-enrichment and nonprofits

Your article in the June 20 *Bay Area Reporter* regarding the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and its executive director, Pat Christen, was excellent ["Pat takes a pay cut"].

Her quoted comment about her own salary is very revealing: "Our commitment to compensating people competitively so that we can seek and maintain the best possible folks is something I don't make any excuses for. Our compensation philosophy has served our organization very well through the years."

In the for-profit corporate world, we have unfortunately become inured to the philosophy and policy of "self-enrichment," as typified in recent news stories about Enron, Arthur Andersen, WorldCom, Xerox, and others.

It appears unfortunately true that this same philosophy and policy has crept into the board rooms of too many nonprofit corporations, as reflected by Ms. Christen's quote above. Traits such as commitment to a cause, altruism, and accountability have become "old-fashioned" for all too many agencies.

It may be argued that her salary represents a little less than 1 percent of the (reduced) budget. In comparison, however, I serve as chair of an administrative committee (board) of a quasi-government program. Our budget is approximately \$60 million this year. Our executive director, a highly-qualified Stanford MBA, is paid just under \$108,000 this year, which represents less than one-fifth of 1 percent of the total budget.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation receives a significant proportion of its budget from federal, state, and local governmental grants, yet its salaries far exceed what public agencies pay their own staff members. It is incomprehensible to me that Ms. Christen receives a salary far in excess of the mayor of San Francisco. San Francisco's supervisors receive less than \$40,000 per year, yet they vote to approve the transfer of tax funds to a so-called nonprofit agency which pays its executive director an obscene salary, far above what they authorize for their own department heads.

I, for one, no longer knowingly contribute anything to a nonprofit organization which pays salaries significantly higher than what is the "industry standard" for public, tax-supported agencies. It is past time for accountability on the part of boards of directors of all charitable organizations, and for their staff members. Self-enrichment has no place in the nonprofit world.

John L. Darby
San Francisco

SFAF director should resign

Pat Christen should resign her position as director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation for the disservice she represents to any beneficiary in need of funds to fight the terrible plague we know as AIDS.

How dare she appropriate an obscene salary of \$185,000-\$220,000 (depending on which news release you have read). Please tell me, what she does to warrant that amount of money? Pat Christen and her cronies at SFAF recently cost many beneficiaries multiple millions of dollars, when they thought they could pull off a separate AIDS bike ride and by doing so, created enough divisiveness to keep hundreds of former riders from participating and raising funds.

Her lame reasoning, in a recent newspaper article, about the soft economy, impact of September 11, and the split from Pallotta Teamworks (which she spearheaded), causing less income from donors is faulty at best.

People are donating less because people and organizations have lost their mission statements and are building obscene salaries and programs that do not benefit the people/causes for which the money has been solicited.

David L. Yancey
San Francisco

Questions about Stonewall

Every year around the end of June it seems like I hear someone from the transgender community lay claim to the events at Stonewall that led to gay liberation and our parade. Most recently this occurred in the story about Christopher Lee and Shawna Virago ["America's Darlings' are ready to ride," June 27]. I wonder about the famous photographs taken in front of the bar. How do we know these individuals are truly transgendered, and not just garden variety drag queens or weekend transvestites? Identifying and tracking them all down would be complicated if they're all still alive. It's not like there was a Declaration of Independence that everyone signed. I'm curious to know how such a sweeping statement as "... Stonewall, which was led by a lot of trans people of color..." is qualified. If Stonewall was exclusively a transgender bar why did it lead to gay liberation and not transgender liberation? I wonder if, before this becomes set in concrete as part of the parade legend, we should examine it more closely.

Larry Schmidt
Oakland, California

Four disappearing words

Television and radio stations in the U.S. are provided a list of seven words that can't be used on the air. If they do, steps can be taken to withdraw their license to broadcast. Most of us listening, wouldn't know of these seven words, until a candid live interview brings motherfucker or cock-sucker onto the airwaves and the station employee immediately apologizes for the words used, promising their adherence to the codes of the air. It wasn't until recently that I realized that our own community has four forbidden words of our own, namely, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender.

Lately, I have noticed that almost all references in the media to our month of celebration is just called "Pride." Also, the corporations in this year's gay parade and advertisers in all the gay rags have immediately jumped on the bandwagon; replacing their targeted "Gay" and "Lesbian" slogans of support, with "Always Proud," "Always Brewed With Pride," "Feel The Pride," and even the Web site of the gay parade committee is www.sfpide.org; which could be the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, for all the name tells us.

To me, having gay Pride is screaming who we are off the rooftops; and writing gay, dyke, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender every chance we get. I remember when businesses in the Castro put "Gay Owned and Operated" signs in their windows; but how many of those businesses would be willing to be "proud" and put a sign like that in their windows today?

Homogenization of who we are comes at a price. It's like going back into the closet.

By the way, I noticed that "Dykes on Bikes" is now the Women's Motorcycle Contingent. These word games don't open us up as more inclusive, they relegate us, and those who would support us, back to the days of "the love that dare not speak its name." Back into the closet.

Robert Meslinsky
San Francisco

A tale of two Pride stages

On Sunday, June 30, I met up with my ex-boyfriend near the Latin stage at noon. We went back and forth between the Latin and Fag Fridays stages. At the Latin stage, I saw Sapphire and Brenda Kay Star - two spectacular musical artists - who sang to an appreciative and enthusiastic crowd. After succumbing to long and hot sun exposure, I left around 5:30 p.m. Since I went back and forth between the two dance stages, I had an opportunity to observe the crowds and music at different times during five and a half hours. Despite the super-star live performances, my overall experience at the Latin stage was of profound disappointment. The live performances were few, short, and separated by long periods of dull techno music. It would have been great to hear CDs of India, Ana Barbara, Monica Naranjo, Limite, Shakira, La Sombra, Pete Astudillo, Gary Hobbs, David Lee Garza, Stephanie Lynn, Elsa Garcia, Mazz, Gavino, Tormenta, Bobby Pulido, Chikko, Albita, Los Askis, or Saya, to name a few.

The performance of the Latin stage MC was poor. The MC and assistants appeared on stage too often and for long periods of time and spoke at length in a self-congratulatory manner about how wonderful and popular their organization was. The MC was quite boring and at one point abusive when he scolded the crowd in a lengthy rant because someone said something negative about the music stopping briefly. The MC would appear from time to time, attempting to rev up enthusiasm with: "How many Latinos do we have here?" - to which the crowd would respond with Pride-based excitement. But he repeated this same line too frequently. Other than that, he didn't say anything interesting. The MC's assistants came on stage to hype up the crowd by demanding that people make lots of noise - over and over - to be followed by bland techno music played over speakers.

Then there was the experience of the Latin stage crowd - most of whom were not dancing, but waiting for the techno music marathon to end so they could hear the live performances. Faces in the crowd were not happy ones, but somber, melancholy, or bored. There were a large number of straight people; some seemed comfortable in the presence of queers, with some I sensed reserved hostility or some other negative attitude toward gays.

The Fag Fridays dance stage was an entirely different experience. First of all, there were no live singers to coordinate into the music schedule. The task of the DJ was simply to put on one CD after another, so there was no disruptions or lag-time and the music proceeded with smooth continuity. The music was great techno and house. The crowd was filled with people from all racial and ethnic groups. Practically everyone was dancing and faces were happy. The few straight people present appeared as if they were comfortable and many interacted with anyone. I left the Fag Fridays stage with fun-filled affirmation of hu-

next page ►

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manity and regret that I couldn't stay longer.

I recommend that next year's Latin stage MC be one with appropriate hosting skills. Also, the music that fills the gaps between performances needs to improve. I hope the Latin stage planners learned from this year's experience to improve next year's dance stage.

Jon Hepworth
San Francisco

Scared syphilis

Who's really responsible for the syphilis epidemic? One could gather that the recent rise in syphilis infection rates among gay men in this city was solely due to the reckless sexual behavior of those men who put themselves at risk by not using condoms. Unfortunately, condoms are not terribly effective in preventing the transmission of syphilis and my recent experiences lead me to believe that the SF City Clinic may be inadvertently contributing to the increase of syphilis in our community.

My boyfriend had been treated for a case of syphilis not long before we met. He must have been reinfected again shortly thereafter, this time without getting a detectable chancre sore. He began to have a variety of symptoms. Both of us being HIV-positive, we assumed that his immune system was trying to fight something off and that perhaps his earache was from one too many nights spent clubbing.

This is where we began our not-so-joy-filled ride on the merry-go-round of misinformation known as the City Clinic. He receives his primary health care there and went to see his regular physician's assistant. His P.A. took a "wait and see" approach that is not uncommon in HIV care, ruling out the possibility of syphilis and refusing to test his blood for it again so soon after having had it. He did refer us to a clinic at General Hospital for an ear exam. During that visit, I asked that doctor if there was a possibility that my boyfriend might have later stage syphilis. She thought it was a good idea to draw some blood to at least rule that out. About a week later, we received a call from someone at City Clinic stating that the results were positive, that he did have syphilis and that we should both come in for treatment. My partner felt he should warn the other men that he had been sexual with and proceeded to make a few uncomfortable phone calls. While he was doing that, I went to the public library to do a little research on syphilis. I wanted to find out as much as possible about the disease so I could ask informed questions about my and my partner's sexual health. When we arrived at City Clinic, we promptly found out that we would have to be seen separately. We had assumed that we would be seen together.

He was called in first, only to be told that the kind of blood test used by SFGH was not the one that they used, so he would need to be retested to determine if indeed he really did have syphilis. A bit confused, he of course did as he was asked, only to find out in about 20 minutes or so that he did not have it! He was understandably relieved. I, on the other hand, am now in another examining room being told that I had been exposed to syphilis by my partner. In a few minutes they were going to do a blood draw to determine if I had been infected. In the meantime, my cock and balls, buttocks, mouth, and hands were examined for sores. Then I was told that I should be screened for other sexually transmitted diseases as well, which sounded like a good idea.

It was frustrating not being allowed to discuss any other seemingly valid concerns that I might have concerning my partner, other than that he had syphilis and had likely given it to me, due to confidentiality regulations.

When I join him in the waiting room, he tells me about his retest and that he is syphilis-free! In a dull sense of shock, I tell him about my examination. Strangely, they did not screen him for other STDs as they did me. I continue to play my part in this charade, by giving blood even though my boyfriend could not have exposed me to something that he does not have. So I am not the least bit surprised to learn that I do not have syphilis either. So with our clean bill of health, we went home to celebrate by fucking like bunnies.

Unfortunately the story does not end there. Almost a full week later he tells me that he's been to City Clinic again, that he does indeed have syphilis, been treated for it and they want me to come in. Unbeknownst to us, the "quick test" is not 100 percent accurate, so they send your blood to another lab for second round of testing. I call to find that my results from that latter test were also negative, but we had sex almost immediately after that blood sample was drawn. So now it's my turn to go back in to get one injection of penicillin in each butt-cheek "just in case" and be retested to determine if I really had it too. I suppose if I had been a mind reader, I might have somehow gotten the message that we needed to wait a week before doing what comes naturally for two boys in love and that City Clinic was not serious when they said that neither of us had syphilis.

As it turns out, I never did have it and to find that out it only cost me a few ounces of blood, a pain in the ass, a week of no sex, and my relationship. My boyfriend and I have split up, in large part due to the stress caused by the confusion at City Clinic. To top things off, the counselor who told me over the phone that I ultimately tested negative for syphilis simply advised me "to be more careful," as if carelessness had anything to do with it. I did exactly as (mis)directed by the public health care workers at City Clinic and not only could have been exposed to syphilis due to their ineptitude, I would have had ample opportunity to spread it unknowingly to other men through their negligence.

Unless my experience was an anomaly, which I doubt, then one would not have to be an epidemiologist to conclude that there is a very large blind-spot on public health's part in San Francisco's soaring syphilis rates among gay men. City Clinic, heal thyself.

Richard Broussard
San Francisco

To all true believers in gay liberation

I am composing this letter on the fly, as my spirits have instructed me just this moment, to convey the following information:

Why does what seems so obvious to people like us, elude your average citizen? Why do we know in our hearts the rightness of our mission, and those all around scorn us and do everything else possible to thwart us in our goals? Why do we feel special, among our species?

Now here is the answer – the only real answer – my sisters, my brothers. We are psychically gifted. We sense the future, we know the future (in some ways that count). Thus, what obvious trends clearly show their eventual outcomes to us, are not at all obvious to your average citizen, for they lack this extra sensitivity that could protect them from such onslaughts of terror and mind control. And why do we possess this gift in the first place? Why are we psychic?

We are witnesses, beloved. We are remote cameras received by the angelic hosts who stand guard in what Christians call Heaven, but what I enjoy calling "Avalon." We are Control Subjects for some divine plan; barometers of the human race. Or canaries in the cave, if you will. We are the True Spirit of Fey, we are the Faery Folk waking up from a long, dark slumber, in the recombining of your genes. Tolkien said as much in his introduction to *The Hobbit*.

Did you ever think about "gaydar" in any serious term? It's real all right, it's telepathy. As a survival mechanism, we queers have evolved a high level of sensitivity toward identifying anyone as gay or not-gay. Call it gaydar and joke about it all you will; for it is a joyous gift to have, is it not?

I am the Main Node of this evolving network ... all instructions and messages must go through me at one point or another ... but don't worry: that is not an order, but a simple observation of how telepathy functions. It is our destiny, my beloved, that we head this network ... we and some others ... like a panel of directors.

Prepare to have your mind flooded by a fountain's spillover of incredible notions and fabulous inspiration that will set your heart on wing. All your dreams, all your aspirations, for gay liberation and your own personal salutations to our inventor, shall come to pass in the sweep of our good inventor's gracious hand. For it is her/his hand, and only her/his hand, that I do trust. Thus it is her/his hand, and only her/his hand, who composes this missive via my keyboard.

And our creator honors you, true believers, for you have done mighty well for yourselves, great lassies and lads! For you never once swerved from the true path, trusting your spirit to guide you always in the heart's direction. And s/he does tell me (who is also my father/mother), that you shall very soon be given worldly resources by which to commence the fulfillment of these goals s/he assigned to you before you were even born ... which goals appear as inspiration to your own self.

Now, however, it is your time to awaken to a better understanding of who you really are, what your mind really is, and how to distinguish inner ideas from those that come rushing at you from outside, whether bidden or not. The psychic world is like a messy alphabet soup that you can hardly make sense of ... until some certain doors to the unconscious are unlocked. But Cerberus guards these awesome doors to protect any fool from treacherously sneaking through them. Only those who possess the Key may enter. And you, Hellenic Hearts, have just been presented with this Key by none other than our commander in chief, who is our inventor.

I am told now to leave you, and my keyboard, with a final comment that you have just sampled one of my very intense, and always unplanned, trances ... during which time I convey messages from the gods. In service to our gay siblings, of course. Always.

Ezekiel J. Krahlin
San Francisco

POLITICS

Hardball politics, Sacramento style

by Wayne Friday

If you think they play hardball payback politics only in the big leagues - Washington, D.C. - think again. Sacramento political leaders of both parties showed last week that they know how to punish or reward wayward Assembly and state Senate members.

In last week's case, it was mostly a matter of punishing those who got on the wrong side of their particular party leaders. Probably not particularly interesting reading for the masses, but inside political junkies recognize these actions as significant.

First, Assemblyman **Dean Florez** (D-Shafter) got booted from his chairmanship post of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. Seems Florez, who is termed out of the Assembly but has won a seat in the Senate next year, was never known as being a Democratic "team player," which is another way of saying he's not all that popular with his party leaders. In spite of that, he wound up as chair of the committee that was reviewing the state's purchase of Oracle software, presumably at a wasteful cost to taxpayers, and the reported bungling of the deal made for headlines for Florez but headaches for the Davis administration.

While no irregularities were actually uncovered, the drawn-out investigation made for weeks of good copy for Florez, but unwanted bad publicity for Democratic Governor **Gray Davis** and some of his Cabinet members.

Apparently intoxicated with the heady headlines, Florez, not content to embarrass the governor with the Oracle investigation, decided to take a look at other agencies. No way, said Assembly Speaker **Herb Wesson** (D-Los Angeles), who promptly removed the headline-hunting gadfly Florez and appointed Davis loyalist Assemblyman **Fred Keeley** (D-Boulder Creek) as the new chair of the investigative committee. Wesson had this excuse he needed in sacking Florez from the powerful committee; the speaker said he was punishing Florez, also a member of the Democratic leadership team, for missing a significant vote on a bill to regulate emissions of greenhouse gases from automobiles. Florez admitted he missed the important vote, but said he found it necessary to return to his home district to watch his son play in a Little League game.

Political payback for disloyal party members in Sacramento is not limited to Democrats, however.

Senate Republicans showed they, too, know how to play the retaliatory game when the GOP leadership punished one of its own, Senator **Maurice Johannessen** (R-Redding), after he bolted the party to become the lone necessary Republican vote that state Senate President Pro Tem **John Burton** (D-San Francisco) needed to get the state budget passed. Johannessen's punishment came in the form of being barred from attending future closed-door meetings of the Republican caucus.

Punishing dissidents is not an

exclusive trait of either party; tolerance for renegade members is apparently not high on the list of leaders of either major party in Sacramento. Assemblyman Florez suffers the wrath of the Assembly speaker for (inadvertently or not) handing GOP gubernatorial nominee **Bill Simon** a possible campaign issue in the Oracle mess; Senator Johannessen is told he can't attend future GOP caucus meetings ("I'll only miss the good lunches," he said) because he had the gall to provide Burton with the one GOP vote he needed to create

the two-thirds majority necessary to pass a state budget on time. Petty partisan politics, you say? Probably. But, a much wiser man (Harry Truman) once used to say, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen," and so it is.

Politics and people

Safeway shoppers on Market Street were lining up Saturday to sign Supervisor **Gavin Newsom's**



Supervisor Gavin Newsom

"Care Not Cash" petitions. The proposed ballot measure would reduce the amount of money given to homeless people, providing services instead. It's likely to qualify for the ballot and if it does, this one will pass big in November.

Friends in San Francisco's District 6 tell me that small business owner **Arthur M. Jackson**, a city health commissioner, will make a strong bid to unseat Supervisor **Chris Daly** in November.

And in District 8, many think that **Bevan Duffy** is quickly becoming the leading candidate to replace Assemblyman-to-be **Mark Leno** in November. BART director **Tom Radulovich**, however, will have Leno's blessings in that contest. Likewise, Supervisor **Leiland Yee**, soon to represent the city's 12th Assembly District in Sacramento, is endorsing **Ed Jew** as his replacement in District 4.

The lone black Republican member of the House of Representatives, **J.C. Watts** of Oklahoma, announced last week that he will not seek re-election this year, and African American politicians were disappointed to see him go. Conservative though Watts may be, liberal Democratic House members like Representative **Charles Rangel** (New York), **Eva Clayton** (North Carolina), and even **John Lewis**, the veteran civil rights leader from Georgia, all reportedly called Watts, and urged him to reconsider, despite the fact that the Democratic Party now

has a chance, albeit a slim one, of picking up Watts's Oklahoma district in November.

And California Republicans might just be giving Governor Gray Davis the political break he badly needs as his poll numbers continue to lag. State GOP chairman **Shawn Steel** resigned from the Republican National Committee's elite executive committee recently, clearly under pressure to do so from the White House and other national GOP forces because of his increasingly bitter intra-party feud with **Gerard Parsky**, Dubya's main go-to Republican in the state. Top White House political operative **Karl Rove** is also at war with the California state GOP chairman for a newspaper article Steel wrote recently, proclaiming the state party's disappointment with Parsky. The right-wing Republicans who still control the state machinery are annoyed at Parsky for cutting a deal with Democratic U.S. Senators **Dianne Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer** to jointly clear federal judicial appointments in the state; the Steel newspaper article read: "...These two lionesses [Feinstein and Boxer] of the left have taken Parsky's naive creation and are using it to eat him, and the president's appointment power, alive." True to form, the California Republicans are again fighting each other when they need unity if they have any chance at all of taking the governor's office from Gray Davis in November.

And insider trading rumors keep growing - it seems that President **George W. Bush** is now changing his official "explanation" as to why he did not report in a timely manner his 1990 sale of nearly \$850,000 worth of stock in a Texas-based energy company a few weeks before its value plummeted. Before he was governor of Texas, Bush sold 212,240 shares of Harken Energy stock in June 1990 at \$4 per share; it fell two months later to \$1 a share upon announcement that it had suffered a company loss of \$23 million. Now, Bush aides say that the younger Bush was eight months late in filing the necessary paper work because of a "mix-up with the attorneys" for the energy company. Hey, we're not suggesting anything here, but, George Bush, meet **Martha Stewart**.

Former President **Bill Clinton** will return to MTV 10 years after his famous saxophone performance to address the global AIDS epidemic. Clinton will be one of several panelists taking questions from an audience of young adults from more than 25 countries during the hourlong program "Staying Alive: A Global Youth Forum on HIV/AIDS," to be taped today (July 11) at the 14th International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain. The special will be telecast tomorrow (Friday, July 12) on more than 30 MTV channels around the world. The program is part of a new youth-oriented AIDS awareness campaign MTV is launching in conjunction with the Kaiser Family Foundation and Family Health International. A United Nations report issued last week predicts that more than 68 million people will die of AIDS in the next two decades unless massive intervention efforts are begun immediately.

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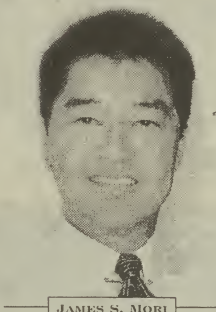
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Pondering roads ahead

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

For me, July is always a time of introspection. It is my birth month, which always leads to many moments to ponder what I've done with my life to this point - and what I want to accomplish in the time I have left on this planet.

This self-analysis is in high gear this time around, as I am reaching - for me - a big birthday. I turn 35 this year, an age I never expected to live to see. I've managed to surprise even myself. The year 2002 is also half-over, giving me a moment to think of all those things I had hoped to accomplish this year, and all those projects started at the beginning of the year that still sit, half-done. I swear that I will someday catch up with my e-mail, for instance. I should add that I also moved at the beginning of the month, and the lack of some of my usual amenities - like a cable modem - are only allowing me more time to focus on my neuroses.

This sort of introspection is much more than just a look into myself, and I won't bore you with a lengthy trek through my own psyche. I can assure you that it is less than an "E" ticket ride. No, July is also a time when I think of the transgender community, and what there is yet to accomplish.

I figure it ties into Pride Month. The glitter and feathers are packed away, and my most recent march down the street is now the stuff of memories. We have feted our accomplishments, partied to the wee hours, and now it's time to get back to work.

The transgender community has had many large and significant victories this year. We've seen rights ordinances pass in more than a handful of locations, including a New York City ordinance that has been more than three decades in the making.

Another recent victory in New Jersey prevents the bullying of students based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

What may be a bigger victory than all of these is a ruling by a federal appeals court. A non-transgendered teacher, Carla Cruzan, complained that her religious freedom was being violated by having to share a restroom with a transgendered woman, Debra Davis, in a Minneapolis public school. The school - in an ironic twist from the norm - provided Cruzan with access to single-use facilities on the campus. Unsatisfied, she asked a federal court to block Davis's restroom access - and lost.

All these victories have truly been watershed moments for the transgender community. We are



Christine Smith

truly being seen as people deserving of basic rights and freedoms. Like my expectation that I would have passed by my 35th year, I never assumed that anyone would take the needs of transgendered people - like me - seriously.

It's not all rosy, though. Every victory has the opportunity to be challenged, and - as we know here in San Francisco - just having a rights ordinance does

not guarantee that abuses will stop or that these rights will even be implemented. Likewise, abuses still occur, and people are still regularly hurt and killed because they are viewed as transgendered.

In yet another recent court decision, a trio of transgendered women who were threatened at a Toys "R" Us location in Brooklyn, New York, won their case, but were awarded a token \$1 each - a far cry from the \$900,000 in damages they were seeking.

Transgendered people still lose jobs solely due to being transgendered, and others find it hard to gain employment for the same reasons. That is always difficult, but this becomes even more trying during an economic downturn. I've even heard recent horror stories of transgendered people being laughed out of job interviews. Given that Hollywood is stuck in a lengthy rut of putting out crossdressing comedies - such as the recent stinker, *Jawanna Mann* - it shouldn't surprise anyone that many are viewing transgendered people as laughable.

We've accomplished a lot, but it is only the tip of the iceberg. Over 40 cities protect transgendered people, but this is minor when one considers how many cities do not have any protections. The same is true of states, with

only two providing statewide protections, and 48 others not providing any such thing. The only possible national protection - via the Employment Non-Discrimination Act - is only presented in a trans-excluding version, and nearly a decade of outcry from transgendered activists continue to fall on deaf ears.

Indeed, much is yet to be done, and this leaves me with a call to you, dear reader. There are remarkably few transgendered people who are on the front lines, struggling to make a difference. Change is still needed, especially in helping others understand the needs of the transgender community.

You need not dedicate your entire life to transgender activism. A little can definitely go a long way. Even just getting out and educating people one at a time can help to change the world. Even if you do not feel like risking being out and visible, you can still write letters, and you can still donate some of your time or money to help the many organizations and individuals who are out and visible and making change. If you can help, then please do.

This is what it all boils down to: when I get introspective, I know that I can look back on some of my accomplishments on behalf of my community, and feel that I have made a difference - that my first 35 years have been given to a good cause. Perhaps you too can feel that you have done what you could to improve the lot for others in need and, in turn, improve yourself.

It's something to think about. ▼

Gwen Smith also never thought she would have been able to transition. She can be found on the web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at www.gwensmith.com.

Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

And the national Republicans are at it again - they will do or say anything to raise campaign funds. U.S. Senator Jim Bunning (Kentucky), trying to raise party funds to regain control of the Senate, sent out a fundraising letter to Republicans nationwide that read, in part, "I am building an army of conservatives to help President Bush, pro-life, pro-family Senators, and the leaders of the Repub-

lican Party win the battle against [Senate Majority Leader] Tom Daschle and his liberal allies. Will you join me in this army to say no to abortion on demand, no to homosexual marriage, and no to raiding the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for liberal pork?" The letter from Bunning, a former Detroit Tigers Hall of Fame pitcher, continued: "With Daschle, Hillary Clinton, and Ted Kennedy working hand in glove with the liberal pro-abortion, pro-gay rights radicals, our nation is in deep trouble." (I hope my gay and

lesbian friends in the Log Cabin Club are reading this.)

Then there's Al Gore - the former vice president, apparently champing at the bit to run for president again, says that if he had it all to do over again, he'd say to hell with the polls, campaign tactics, etc., and would "let it rip." Please, Al, give it up. Despite the fact that he won the popular vote (and legally won the election), the guy still ran a lousy campaign. John Kerry, John Edwards, somebody, please stand up soon.

And how was your week? ▼

Keep the Pride, ditch the parade

by Dale Carpenter

Near the front of the Pride Parade in Minneapolis this year marched a stern-faced woman dressed in leather-dominatrix regalia leading around by spiked chain and whip a person (sex indeterminable) hunched over and disguised as a four-legged beast, probably a horse. Similar displays — which are less about “being yourself” than about simply being seen — assaulted the senses in parades around the country. I ask you, must we continue to put ourselves through this every year?

For the most part, the annual Pride Parades are a dreary procession of the ordinary: businesses, politicians, gay professionals, and social service organizations wanting money. Where they are not dreary, however, the parades seem calculated to offend the very folk we must win over.

In the 1970s, the parades served the important purpose of giving gays a sense of community and identity necessary to organize in a time when there were no positive images of gays in the mass media, when most states had sodomy laws, and when homosexuality was still officially listed as a mental disorder. In the 1980s, they helped rally us against AIDS. Always characterized by an in-your-face outrageousness, the parades nevertheless had some offsetting value.

But in the age of *Will & Grace*, when even Republicans are coming around, the parades are an anachronism, perpetuated more out of habit and nostalgia than necessity.

There is an inverse relationship between the degree of weirdness in a city's Pride Parade and the genuine need for that parade. In the big cities, where the parades are the most outlandish, they serve the least useful purpose. New York, San Francisco, Washington, Houston, and other large American cities are dotted with gay bars, restaurants, and book stores. They have gay bowling leagues and choruses and political groups and civil rights ordinances. A parade designed to foster awareness and community in these cities is an expensive and time-consuming redundancy.

Maybe, you say, the big-city parades benefit people in the surrounding suburbs and small towns. The gay Chicagoan may not need a parade to feel proud but the closeted guy from Peoria needs the Chicago parade to have just one day a year to commune with other gay people. There's surely some benefit to that.

Yes, but at what cost? If our concern is truly to give hope to the gay people who live in the hinterlands, the Pride Parades may do more harm than good. Simulated sex acts, near-naked men gyrating to music, and bare-breasted women don't play well in Peoria. And like it or not when the local nightly news there turns to gay pride, that's what plays.

That can't be good for the social environment in which gay Peorians must live and work. It hardens anti-gay attitudes, frightening Americans with what they

imagine a gay-friendly future would look like. As a result, parents come down harder on any hint of homosexuality in their children. It doesn't matter that these images are unrepresentative of gay life; to Americans who live nowhere near a gay coffee shop, that's what gay means.

And unfortunately it's what gay comes to mean to youths wrestling with their own feelings of same-sex attraction.

As a teenager growing up in southern Texas, I saw footage of S&M leather fetishists in the San Francisco parade. If that's gay, I thought, I must not be gay.

Gay youth around the country are forced into the closet by these parades, either because of the backlash they suffer in their communities or because of their own alienation from the public image of gayness.

So there is a large hidden human cost to these displays. It's awfully selfish for us in big cities to have this fabulous annual party at their expense.

What's the alternative? We'll never get the media to stop focusing on the sensational. That's not because the media are uniformly homophobic; it's because they're profit-driven, profits are determined by audience size, and audiences prefer outrageous to dreary. It doesn't matter how many contingents of gay-suburbanite couples proudly brandish their joint mortgage statements, the TV stations will still feature the square-dancing drag queens.

It's also not an option to exclude weirdness from the parades. First of all, we could never agree on what's weird. Second, even if we could, people would scream censorship. Third, parade organizers tend to be so drenched in the easy rhetoric of inclusion and diversity they could never be trusted to make sensible judgments about such things.

The answer is to end the parades, at least in the big cities, where the weirdness of them is at a maximum and the need for them is at a minimum.

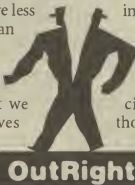
We should replace them with park festivals featuring civil rights and other groups with booths, food, and live concerts. That would make the annual Pride celebrations fun and informative while minimizing the incentive for counterproductive media spectacles. Something like this already happens in most cities at the end of the parade. Let's skip the parade and go straight to the festival.

The parades themselves could justifiably go on in medium- and small-sized cities where they now flourish. Parades in these places tend to reflect the values and tastes of local communities, which can actually help the gay people who live there.

And no, this is not a proposal to “hide” the marginalized. Hey, if you want to walk around dressed as a farm animal, go for it.

But don't ask us to have a parade for you. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at OutRight@aol.com.



Puppets for the people



Jaime Pillonien/Citland

Sunny skies and warm weather brought hundreds of LGBT families to Yerba Buena Gardens in downtown San Francisco for the annual Ol' Fashioned Fourth of July Alternative Family Picnic. Above, giant puppets and others in costume greeted attendees. People enjoyed a variety of entertainment at the daylong event, which was sponsored by the Alternative Family Institute, Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, and the Jon Sims Center for the Arts.

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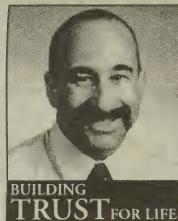


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Cat calls

by Jane Warner

1 300 block of Castro, July 4, 1:40 p.m.: Two men walking down the street saw a white Mustang driving recklessly in the parking lot of the 24th Street Walgreens. When one of the men yelled at the driver to slow down, the driver looked out the window and shouted back, "Punk faggot, I'll fuck you and your boyfriend up the ass." The men yelled back, "You'll die trying," and the driver, angry at the comment, squealed out of the parking lot, made a U-turn, and headed for the men on the sidewalk, nearly hitting them. The driver, described as a white male, 19-20 years old, wearing a white T-shirt and baggy blue jeans, sped past the men and was last seen driving eastbound on Jersey Street. Responding police were unable to locate him.

Get a clue

3800 block of 18th, July 4, 2:40 a.m.: Upon returning home early in the morning, three roommates discovered that their house had been burglarized. A window in one of the back bedrooms had been pried open and six silver steak knives and a ceramic dog were found missing. After checking the back yard, one of the residents found a red backpack next to side of the house. Inside the bag were miscellaneous items including clothing and a letter from the San Francisco Housing Authority addressed to the possible suspect. Police responded to the scene, collected the found items, and arranged for the crime lab to dust for fingerprints.

Case closed

Parking garage, Noe and Beaver, July 7, 9:30 p.m.: A woman noticed a suspicious suitcase inside the parking garage and called 911. Officers responded, looked at the suitcase, and called the bomb squad. Police decided to evacuate the area, closing several businesses on Noe Street including Rosen-

berg's Deli and Cafe Flore. The bomb squad arrived and after about three hours, determined that the suitcase did not contain a bomb, just some miscellaneous clothing. The street was re-opened to traffic at midnight.

Perfect timing

18th and Church, July 3, 3 a.m.: While waiting for a cab near the Muni tunnel, a man noticed two men exit a van and urinate on the sidewalk. The men looked over and started to walk in his direction. Frightened for his safety, the man ran into the park. The men gave chase, tackling him to the ground. The two robbers rifled through his pockets, taking his New York driver's license and Visa credit card. As the victim lay on the grass, he could see a police cruiser stopped at a

traffic light. The victim got up and ran toward the car yelling for help. Officers quickly got out and chased the suspects. The robbers ran behind a tree, trying to hide, but officers saw them. With guns drawn, they took the suspects into custody without further incident. The suspects, ages 23 and 25, were taken to Mission Station and booked for conspiracy and strong-arm robbery. One of the robbers was also booked for a parole violation.

Happy trails

17th and Church, July 8, 9 p.m.: The doorman of the Cafe called 911 after observing a driver passed out behind the wheel of a white Cadillac in Chevron's parking lot. The doorman noticed extensive damage to the car's front end, as the tire had fallen off the front wheel. Before police arrived,



however, the driver woke up and handed his keys to the gas station attendant, said he needed his car fixed, then walked home. When officers arrived they examined the white Cadillac and noticed red paint marks on the damaged fender. They also noticed a fresh scrape mark in the pavement where the rim of the tireless wheel had dug into the road. Officers followed the fresh scrape mark down 17th Street where it continued for four blocks. There, in front of Everett Middle School, was a parked red Chrysler which had been side-swiped. A solid line of white paint ran the length of its body. Officers collected the driver's information from the gas attendant, filed a report, and left a note on the windshield of the damaged Chrysler. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police can be reached at (415) 559-9955.

Knoller sentencing hearing Mon.

by Ed Walsh

The dog-mauling case is expected to end its final phase at the trial court level with the sentencing of Marjorie Knoller, the woman whose dogs mauled Diane Whipple to death last year.

On Monday, July 15, San Francisco Superior Court Judge James Warren is expected to sentence Knoller to the maximum term of four years in state prison. With credit for time served and good behavior, Knoller, 47, likely will be free on parole in a little over a year.

Prosecutors originally planned to argue a motion to persuade Warren to reverse his controversial decision last month that struck down the jury's conviction of Knoller for second-degree murder. Instead, the San Francisco District Attorney's office announced last week that it will take the appeal of Warren's decision directly to the California Court of Appeal.

Whipple's partner, Sharon

Smith, is among those planning to attend Monday's hearing. Smith, along with her sister, Janet Batchelder, and Whipple's former co-worker, Sarah Miller, spoke last month during a sentencing hearing for Knoller's husband, Robert Noel. They tearfully criticized Warren's decision throwing out the second-degree verdict and urged the judge to give Noel the maximum four-year sentence.

Michael Cardoza, one of Smith's lawyers in the civil suit against Knoller and Noel, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that although Smith will comment outside court, she will not speak during the hearing. Cardoza said he didn't think any of Whipple's friends or supporters would speak in court, preferring to let their previous comments stand for the record.

Noel, 61, got the maximum sentence and was shipped off to state prison immediately after his sentencing. He is currently in custody in the Deuel Vocational Center in Tracy, about 70 miles east of San Francisco. California Department of Corrections spokes-

woman Margot Bach told the *B.A.R.* that Noel will likely be assigned in the next few weeks to another prison where he will serve the remainder of his term. Bach added that it would be "very unlikely" that Noel will be transferred to Pelican Bay State Prison. Noel and Knoller's adopted son, Paul "Cornfed" Schneider, is a Pelican Bay inmate, although he is temporarily in custody in a federal prison in Missouri while he awaits trial on federal racketeering charges. Those charges stem from his alleged involvement with the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang.

Noel and Knoller were convicted in March of involuntary manslaughter and keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being. Knoller was originally convicted of second-degree murder because she was with her two Presa Canario dogs during the January 26, 2001 hallway attack on Whipple, her neighbor. The trial jurors were persuaded by prosecutors' arguments that the couple knew their dogs were dangerous but did virtually nothing to mitigate the danger. ▼

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by Liz Highleyman

On July 6, the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom announced that it had called on Cendant Corporation, the world's largest hotel franchiser, to rescind a policy discouraging "controversial" guests and events.

Cendant put the policy in place this spring after conservative religious groups including Concerned Women for America and the American Family Association complained about the fact that franchised hotels were hosting BDSM/leather events.

Although Cendant did not ban such gatherings outright, it did warn franchisees that the parent company would "respond aggressively and immediately" if hotels failed to "consider the potential negative consequences" of hosting guests or groups that "community and national interest groups find offensive."

Since the beginning of the year

religious conservatives have targeted hotels that host BDSM conferences.

In early April the Southern Baptist Convention canceled a reservation to hold its annual convention at a Howard Johnson hotel in St. Louis after learning that the hotel would host "Beat Me in St. Louis," a BDSM educational and social event.

According to AFA's Donald Wildmon, "Howard Johnson has authorized the use of their facilities for perverted acts of sexual violence to be displayed, taught, and participated in."

The hotel owner did not bow to conservative pressure, and the meeting took place without incident in late April, as did the "Tribal Fire" gathering in Oklahoma City the same month.

However, "My Vicious Valentine," which took place in Chicago in February, was forced to change locations after its initial venue, the Radisson O'Hare, rescinded its contract following pressure from

CWA. A Michigan event called "Bondage and Beyond" was canceled entirely after the local AFA chapter targeted the host hotel.

NCSF issued its letter to Cendant on May 28. The group is also urging its members to contact the corporation and sign a petition.

"We are outraged that the leading hotel franchiser is allowing a small group of extremists to impose its beliefs on all of its guests," said NCSF spokeswoman Susan Wright. "Many Americans may also be offended by the ideas of controversial groups like Concerned Women for America or the National Rifle Association, but all the same, we would support the right of these groups to assemble and express themselves in private."

Cendant operates more than 6,000 hotels, including the Howard Johnson, Ramada, Days Inn, Travelodge, and Super 8 Motel franchises. It is also the parent corporation of Avis rental cars, Century 21 Realty, and several other businesses. ▼

NCSF calls for reversal of hotel policy

Bodfish close to getting park wish

by Ed Walsh

The last wish of transgender murder victim Emmon Bodfish may finally be fulfilled later this year, more than three years after his death. A six-acre park on the property surrounding his home in the upscale East Bay city of Orinda is expected to be open for visitors in about six months, according to Bodfish's estate executor, Garrett Riegg.

"But every six months, I've been saying another six months," cautioned Riegg on the unexpected delays getting the park opened.

The park will double as a wildlife sanctuary and will feature walking trails and will include a bench and a plaque recognizing Bodfish's donation of the land. Secluded along the 600 block of Miner Road, the secluded park will include a few parking spaces and is intended to provide a quiet sanctuary for people and animals. Bodfish's home and the property immediately surrounding it is being rented. The rental proceeds will support the upkeep and development of the park.

Bodfish's bludgeoned body was found in his Orinda home on June 30, 1999. His son, Max Wills, committed suicide in Santa Mon-

ica just after being told that his mother, Bodfish, was dead. Police said that although they don't consider Wills a suspect, they can't rule him out. No physical evidence has ever been found connecting him to the murder.

Bodfish, 56, was born Margaret Bodfish. He was a millionaire and extremely reclusive. He lived a double life as a man and a woman but he presented himself to most outsiders as a man. He bought a house in Mill Valley in 1997 as Margaret Bodfish but he told neighbors that he was buying it for his nephew, Emmon Bodfish. Neighbors there told the B.A.R. that they were shocked to learn, after the murder, that Margaret and Emmon were the same person.

In the final years of his life, Bodfish was very depressed and became increasingly reclusive, seeing almost no one except his son. He wrote fantasies in journals about being beaten to death leading to police speculation that he may have solicited his own murder. Wills also suffered from depression, but unlike many depressed people, he didn't isolate himself from others and maintained a close circle of friends. He apparently had no problem with his mother's transgender life, and joked to friends that his mother

was a "drag king."

Bodfish willed his estate, valued at more than \$7 million, to various charities. His favorite benefactor, Hysterectomy Educational Resources and Services (HERS), was given over \$1 million. HERS fights unnecessary hysterectomies. Bodfish underwent a hysterectomy in the 1970s.

Bodfish was a member of the reformed Druid faith, which devotes itself to the appreciation of nature as a deity. In keeping with his love of nature, his will required that his property be kept as open space park or wildlife sanctuary.

Although Bodfish was extremely reclusive in the last years of his life, he left a close circle of devoted friends who have held many memorial services in his honor. They best remember him for his great intelligence and kindness.

Bodfish's close friend, Stacey Weinberger, designed his headstone. It was completed in April and Weinberger gathered with a group of friends in May for a memorial service to install the plaque at Bodfish's burial site in Mount Shasta, in Northern California. Weinberger said she left a single rose on his Orinda property last month, on the three year anniversary of his death. ▼

Arkansas sodomy law overturned

by Liz Highleyman

The Arkansas Supreme Court ruled July 5 that the state's sodomy law is unconstitutional and an invasion of privacy. The legislation, which only applied to sexual conduct between members of the same sex, carried a fine of \$1,000 and a jail sentence of up to one year.

The suit was brought by a group of seven gay and lesbian Arkansans — including a high school Spanish teacher, a high school counselor, and a Christian minister — represented by New York City-based Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. The plaintiffs argued that the legislation violated their right to privacy and equal protection under the law.

The state Supreme Court justices ruled 5-2 in favor of the plaintiffs stating, "The General Assembly cannot act, under the cloak of police power or public morality, arbitrarily to invade personal liberties of the individual citizen" or to "enforce a majority

morality on persons whose conduct does not harm others." They continued, "A fundamental right to privacy is implicit in the Arkansas Constitution," and noted that gays and lesbians share the same constitutional protections as others.

"The Arkansas Supreme Court has proclaimed that the government doesn't belong in the bedrooms of consenting adults," said Susan Sommer, the Lambda Legal attorney who argued the case. "The court has held that Arkansas lesbian and gay residents are entitled to the same rights as their heterosexual neighbors."

Although no one has been prosecuted under the 1977 law, the plaintiffs argued that the classification of their conduct as illegal leaves them open to discrimination and persecution.

Said cooperating attorney David Ivers, "This law has a terrible impact on gay and lesbian people in Arkansas. It is used against gay parents in custody cases, it is used by employers to discriminate, it is used by police to harass."

The two dissenting justices opined that the court should not have ruled on the law because there was no criminal case and the plaintiffs had failed to show actual harm.

Lambda Legal filed the lawsuit in January 1998. In March 2001 Judge David Bogard ruled the law unconstitutional. The state attorney general appealed to the high court, arguing that the legislature should be able to consider morality when enacting laws.

Three other states — Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas — criminalize sexual conduct between consenting same-sex adults. Nine other states prohibit consensual oral and anal sex between both same-sex and opposite-sex adults.

Lambda Legal is continuing its challenge of the Texas homosexual conduct law — a case involving two men who were arrested for having sex in the home of one of the men — and next week will request that the U.S. Supreme Court decide the constitutionality of that law, which has been upheld by the Texas courts. ▼



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Gay SF State student wins scholarship

by Matthew S. Bajko

San Francisco State University graduate student Joseph Mullin will be honored this month as a winner of a prestigious scholarship granted to students who demonstrate superior academic performance, community service, personal accomplishments, and financial need.

Mullin is one of six students statewide, and one of two from the Bay Area, to receive the 2002/03 William R. Hearst-California State University Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement. He will receive the \$3,000 scholarship next week at the July 17 meeting of the CSU Board of Trustees.

"I wish that the recognition that I receive for this award will encourage others with a life-threatening illness to hope for the future and to acknowledge the value of pursuing one's dreams and aspirations," said Mullin, who is HIV-positive.

Mullin, 44, lives in the Lower Haight neighborhood in San Francisco and is a volunteer and activist in the gay community. With four years of experience on the volunteer treatment hotline of Project Inform, he also served as a volunteer assistant librarian at the AIDS Action Committee in Boston and volunteered at Healing Alternatives Foundation in San Francisco. Mullin currently serves on the Medical Advisory Committee for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program of the statewide



San Francisco State University graduate student Joseph Mullin is set to receive a prestigious scholarship.

Office of AIDS.

"I spent 25 years working as a waiter and I then became disabled. It was a wonderful opportunity to do what I always wanted to do and that is finish my schooling and become a teacher," said Mullin. "I am being retrained now using the California Department of Rehabilitation's back-to-work program to help me with school and to find a new career."

Mullin, who boasts a 4.0 grade point average, was also recently named a Sally Casanova Pre-doctoral Scholar, an annual award that supports the doctoral aspirations of more than 80 CSU students who have experienced eco-

nomomic and educational disadvantages. Last year he was named one of 10 Hood Recipients, an honor for SFSU's most distinguished graduates, when he earned his bachelor's degree in humanities.

"I don't picture myself as a role model in any way. I just hope other people like myself will gain the confidence and gain the courage to go and use their disability to go back and do the things they always wanted to do. Just like I am doing," he said.

After Mullin completes his master's degree in history, he will pursue a doctorate in cultural or American studies and focus his work on the history of discrimi-

nation. Ultimately, he would like to teach at a university and continue his community activism.

"I plan to become a college professor and write books that would get a wide readership, and hopefully, make a difference," he said.

For now he is working on his dissertation, which is looking at the treatment of Mexican American students in San Francisco public schools in the 1920s. He is examining the root causes of why one group of people is selected as a target of discrimination.

"My graduate work after SFSU will study if a vested interest is always present for discrimination to take place, as it is with the political right and enterprising religious entrepreneurs with gay people and people with HIV/AIDS. It will also look more deeply at the dynamics of fear," explained Mullin. "If my model of discrimination is correct, efforts to 'confront' dis-

crimination must seek to acknowledge, understand, and alleviate fear if it is present. It is also necessary to understand and expose the vested interests that are behind targeting groups for discrimination."

The CSU Board of Trustees' Outstanding Achievement Award was created in 1974 and later combined with the Hearst Scholarship Program in 1999. The award is funded by an endowment from the Hearst Foundation and individual contributions from members of the CSU Board of Trustees.

"Joe has a prodigious appetite for research and he's found sources for some of his papers that no previous historian has explored," said SFSU history Professor Robert Cherny, who nominated Mullin for the award. "He provides service to other students and the History Department. Joe is, in every way, a model student." ▼

SF State to conduct gay youth study

by Matthew S. Bajko

Researchers at San Francisco State University have received a three-year, \$876,965 grant to conduct the first-ever study of physical and mental health outcomes of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth who disclose their sexual orientation to family members during adolescence.

Funded by the California Endowment, the state's largest health foundation, the study is also the first to comprehensively explore sexual orientation in Latino families.

Earlier studies of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth have shown higher rates of suicide, substance use, risky sexual behaviors, victimization, depression, chronic stress, and pregnancy than their heterosexual peers. However, little attention has been focused on the youths' families and their responses after the youth come out.

"Lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth are coming out in high school and middle school while they're still dependent on their parents and families, yet we have little information to help enhance family support or to understand why some teens thrive while others struggle," said Caitlin Ryan, director of policy studies at the SFSU Institute on Sexuality, Inequality and Health. "The California Endowment's commitment to underserved groups and multicultural care will help us understand these complex dynamics and develop critically needed training materials for providers."

Ryan and Rafael Diaz, SFSU professor of human sexuality studies and ethnic studies, will work closely with Northern California community agencies such as the Gay Straight Alliance Network and Adolescent Health Working Group to study white and Latino teen-agers and their families. Diaz's previous research of Latino gay men indicated that

family acceptance is the most critical factor in reducing risk for HIV infection.

In addition, Diaz found that family acceptance is critical to promoting "resiliency," or the ability of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth to survive and thrive despite the many challenges and struggles they encounter.

"Supporting families to welcome and accept their child's gay identity is one of the most important HIV prevention strategies we can offer," he said.

Ryan, who has studied gay and lesbian health and mental health issues since the 1970s, said that attention to family reactions is more critical than ever because more lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth are coming out at younger ages, which significantly increases the possibility of being victimized at home and in public, and gay and bisexual youth are at high risk for HIV infection.

The study's results will be used to develop training materials and assessment tools for health and mental health providers and school practitioners, as well as a guide for health providers on family care and support for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth.

"This project draws directly from the experiences and perspectives of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth, their families and the service providers who are trying to help them," said Barbara Webster, program officer at the California Endowment, which was established in 1996 to expand access to affordable, quality health care for underserved individuals and communities, and to promote fundamental improvements in the health status of all Californians.

"The important result will be guidelines for delivering quality culturally competent care to these vulnerable and underserved youth within the all-important context of their families," added Webster. ▼

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KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

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How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
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- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your

local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.

– Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others

– Halcion® (triazolam)

– Hismanal® (astemizole)

– Orap® (pimozide)

– Propulsid® (cisapride)

– Rythmol® (propafenone)

– Seldane® (terfenadine)

– Tambocor™ (flecainide)

– Versed® (midazolam)

- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.

- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

- A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:**
Phenobarbital
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Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

Other Special Considerations:

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:**
Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new

or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.

- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.

- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.

- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.

- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.

- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.

- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:** The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.

- If you are breast-feeding:** Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.

- If you have liver problems:** If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.

- If you have diabetes:** Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.

- If you have hemophilia:** Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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Strict federal drug bill proposed

by Joe Dignan

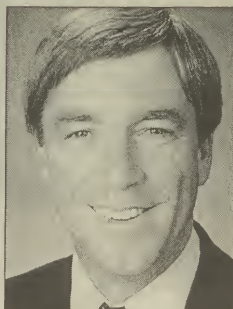
If U.S. Congressman Doug Ose (R-Sacramento) and 66 other co-sponsors have their way, entertainment promoters may have their property seized, without trial, if they produce an event where they know "or reasonably should know" that a controlled substance will be used.

The provision is part of a larger bill, HR3782, introduced in February and now in the House Subcommittee on Education Reform.

The provision could be applied to any sort of event where the organizers might expect there to be drug use. According to Bill Piper, associate director of national affairs for the Drug Policy Alliance, this could include demonstrations in favor of medical marijuana and "hemp fests," but the bill specifically targets "rave, dance, and music" events.

"Our objective is to focus on methamphetamine and drug use," said Ose spokesman Yier Shi. "We wanted to give law enforcement as many tools as possible to clamp down on illegal drug use. We believe that one of the big drug problems is the illegal use at clubs and such. Promoters who recklessly sponsor something like that should be looked into."

"The goal is to give law enforcement as many tools as possible. I don't know what the implementation of this is going to be,"



Congressman Doug Ose

Shi said.

"This would substantially chill free speech and free expression," according to the Drug Policy Alliance's Piper.

Federal law provides broad-ranging powers for prosecutors to seize the property of those even suspected of violating federal drug law.

Eric E. Sterling, president of the Criminal Justice Policy Foundation in Silver Spring, Maryland, said that "any property owner, whether you are running a theater or nightclub or campground or a motel who reasonably should know that some customer is going to use illegal drugs can be prosecuted. Even if they're not prosecuted, the government can seize all the property."

The provision is part of a bill

that also provides more than \$100 million to combat methamphetamine use. It provides \$60 million to clean up the toxic residues often left by meth labs or dumped on public and private land. Ose's district is located in the rural California Central Valley.

The bill provides \$31 million for methamphetamine education and treatment, to be distributed by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Education Department.

It also contains a \$32 million enforcement budget to be administered by the Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration. Five million dollars would be set aside for rural communities and \$10 million would go to expand the facilities of a DEA "clandestine lab training facility" in Quantico, Virginia.

"We have experience with the government's zealous misuse of these kinds of statutes," said Sterling. "This is an extremely lucrative avenue for law enforcement. In some places they brag about all the stuff they got from the forfeitures."

"We're spending \$50 billion on the war on drugs," he said. "It's an enormous industry. Law enforcement agencies are institutionally committed to the war, and elected officials are loath to cross law enforcement."

California Senator Dianne Feinstein (D) has announced she will introduce companion legislation in the Senate. ▼

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Go 'out to eat' for queer youth next week

by Zak Szymanski

Queer youth and adults all know that even a few miles outside of San Francisco can make all the difference in how an LGBT person is perceived or treated. That's why queer kids to the south of San Francisco are grateful for the Outlet Program of the Mid-Peninsula YWCA; the free, safe, supportive, confidential, drop-in group for youth ages 13-18 has been in existence since 1997 and has helped more than 1,000 youth through information, advocacy, and community services.

The Outlet Program—the only program of its kind on the mid-

Peninsula—will host its fourth annual "Out to Eat" gala next Thursday, July 18, at Hyatt Richeys in Palo Alto.

With an aim to raise \$25,000 for the program, the dinner will begin at 6 p.m. and will include keynote speeches from Outlet youth, as well as an auction with prizes ranging from a Santa Monica weekend and a condominium stay in Puerto Vallarta to restaurant vouchers and personal training sessions.

Several major corporate sponsors have already signed onto the event, including Applied Materials, Hewlett-Packard, Hobe's California Restaurants, Morrison & Foerster LLP, and Synopsys.

"We're off to a good start with these sponsors and we hope many local community leaders and supporters will join in the gala," said Outlet program director Juan Barajas. "Our richest resource is our youth, and the Outlet Program provides teens with a safe place to talk about issues concerning sexual or gender identity, coming out, health issues, and self-esteem."

Hyatt Richeys is located at 4219 El Camino Real. Tickets to Out to Eat start at \$75, with table rates available. Students ages 13-22 need only pay \$40. For more information on tickets, or to make a donation, call (650) 494-0972, ext. 301. ▼

AIDS Health Project seeks volunteers, hosts sex workshop

by Matthew S. Bajko

The AIDS Health Project at the University of California at San Francisco is looking for HIV prevention facilitators for its REACH program. Volunteers are needed to help reduce the rate of HIV infections in San Francisco.

The program, called Risk Evaluation and Counseling for Health, conducts 12-week HIV prevention support groups and monthly workshops. Topics discussed in the various programs include connecting with others, talking about HIV risks and building relationships.

The REACH programs are all peer-facilitated groups, and are

aimed at people who are both HIV-negative or untested, as well as programs for people regardless of their HIV status. In addition to facilitator training, volunteers must commit 10 to 12 hours a month and have a general sensitivity to HIV-related issues.

"The issues that are addressed in our support groups enable group participants to stay focused on their health and well-being," said Michael Discepola, coordinator of the REACH Program. "Support and information sharing makes a real difference and these groups are a key part of our HIV prevention efforts."

AHP is offering a free weekend training on group facilitation skills July 19 through 21 for peo-

ple interested in becoming a REACH facilitator. For a training application, or to learn more about the training, contact John Tighe at (415) 502-7579.

To experience what a REACH workshop is like, AHP is offering a one-day workshop on connecting through sex on Friday July, 23. The workshop is for gay and bi men regardless of their HIV status and will examine the physical and emotional aspects of sex and developing or maintaining a healthy sexuality.

The program will take place from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the AHP Services Center, 1930 Market Street. Space is limited and participants must register in advance by calling (415) 476-6448 ext. 1. ▼



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Barcelona

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sumption that parts of Asia were somehow immune to HIV," said Piot. "In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the assumption that the epidemic would remain confined to marginalized groups, such as injecting drug users, is turning out to be the worst sort of wishful thinking."

The report contrasted "increased political commitment, resources and institutional initiatives" of some governments with the fact that "an unacceptable number of governments and civil society institutions are still in a state of denial about the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and are failing to act to prevent its further spread or alleviate its impact."

The somber report cast a large shadow over the conference in sunny Barcelona, Spain. The con-

ference, with a record 17,000 registrants, opened Sunday, July 7 and continues through Friday. It brought home the message that experts have continuously underestimated the relentless capacity of this epidemic to expand. It has become the worst plague in recorded human history.

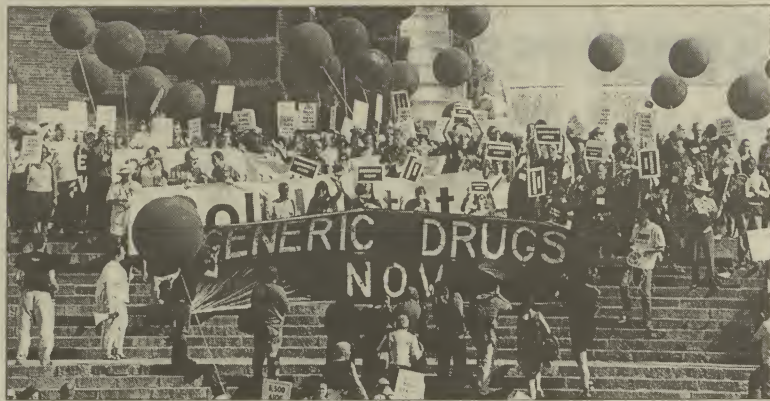
Many nations appear to be vying for the title of who has the fastest growing caseload. Vadim Pokrovsky, director of the Center for AIDS Prevention and Treatment in Moscow, said that an estimated 1 million Russians (out of a population of 144 million) are believed to be infected with HIV. Some 88,000 new cases were officially registered in 2001, an increase of nearly 50 percent over the previous year.

"We're moving closer to an African scenario," he said.

By comparison, the United States also has an estimated 1 million people living with HIV, but new infections have stabilized at around 40,000 a year. And the burden is distributed over a population roughly twice the size of Russia's.

China is on the brink of an "explosive" AIDS epidemic and faces a "titanic peril," trumpeted UNAIDS. "We are now witnessing the unfolding of an HIV/AIDS epidemic of proportions beyond belief, an epidemic that calls for an urgent and proper but currently yet unanswered quintessential response," Piot said.

The Chinese epidemic gained its foothold largely through improper sterilization of needles used to collect blood, and improper screening of those blood products for HIV and other viruses. While many of those problems



Demonstrators call for generic drugs on the opening day of the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona.

have been corrected, the epidemic is now spreading through the shared needles of injection drug use and through sexual contact. The report criticized the Chinese government for doing little to educate the public to the risks of HIV and prevent its spread, a charge the government denied.

Through the pall shone beacons of hope that concerted action can bring results. In Uganda, the adult HIV prevalence rate has fallen from 8.3 percent in 1999 to 5 percent in 2001, the result of strong prevention efforts plus huge numbers of deaths. Zambia appears to be following the same path in containing its epidemic.

Poland's prevention efforts have reduced levels of HIV among injection drug users and have largely prevented it from spreading through sexual contact into the broader population. While Brazil has shown that the widespread availability of less expensive drugs can greatly reduce deaths from the disease, much as they have in the United States.

One major debate of the conference is whether increased funding should go to prevention or treatment. A preliminary salvo was fired in the May 25 issue of the British medical journal *Lancet* that argued for "HIV prevention before HAART in sub-Saharan Africa."

Using the costs of therapy, now greatly reduced for that region by pharmaceutical companies, the authors calculated that "for every 1 life-year gained with HAART, 28

life-years could have been gained with prevention." That was based upon just the cost of drugs and did not include creating the necessary health care and monitoring infrastructure to administer therapy as it is done in the U.S. and Europe. Such a calculation would tilt the equation even more strongly in favor of prevention.

Perhaps the most startling fact is that according to a UNAIDS report, fewer than one in five people worldwide know how HIV is transmitted and how they can protect themselves from infection. Thus they are not modifying their behavior. Much of this is ignorance due to lack of political will to support strong prevention messages in many of the nations that are hardest hit.

"We found that countries need combination approaches" to prevention, the Gates Foundation's Helene Gayle told *Newsday* reporter Laurie Garrett. "We talk in treatment about combination therapy. Now we're talking about combination prevention."

Treatment advocates have called for creation of a Global Access Alliance, "an independent body to carry out use of antiretrovirals in poor countries," in the words of Joep Lange, president of the International AIDS Society.

He argues that wealthy nations "are holding back their money because they see the lack of health infrastructure in these countries, the lack of trained managers." Lange fears, "If we don't start to

do things dramatically different, like a military operation, then it will be just talk, talk, talk."

Both sides agree that they would not be having this debate if there were enough money to do everything. Revised UNAIDS estimates put the need at \$30 billion a year. Only a fraction of that is currently available.

AIDS advocates are counting on a large increase in donations from the United States to fund more prevention and treatment efforts. A new survey, released on July 6, suggests little support among the American people for such spending. It was conducted by the *Washington Post*, Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, and Harvard University.

While 74 percent supported the Bush administration proposal to spend \$500 million over the next three years, mostly in Africa, 82 percent believe that the most important factor is the need for individuals to change their behavior, while 74 percent believe that African governments themselves are not doing enough to curb the epidemic.

Ammunition for that view came on July 7 with news that the government of Swaziland, a small nation of less than a million people on the northeastern border of South Africa, is purchasing a corporate jet for the exclusive use of its king. The \$45 million aircraft costs more than twice that nation's entire annual health budget. A third of Swazi adults are believed to be infected with HIV. ▼

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Infection status

◀ page 1

AIDS Policy and Training Institute in Los Angeles, suggested the problem occurred long before the men went for their HIV test.

"The real failure is that these folks are not in the health care system at all," he said.

The problem goes beyond HIV

infection and encompasses a failure to understand risks of heart disease, cancer, and other infections, Wilson said, adding that he knows people with advanced stages of syphilis who have assumed they were not infected because they have been in steady relationships for years and had not sought treatment.

Dr. Ron Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's National Cen-

ter for HIV, STD and TB Prevention, said, "As we work to renew HIV prevention among gay men and others at high risk, the knowledge gained through these studies is critical to forging solutions that address the current realities of gay and bisexual men's lives."

MacKeller added, "We have got to reduce the number of gay and bisexual men who are not aware of their HIV status." ▼

Tommy Thompson booed in Barcelona

by Cynthia Laird

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson was booed and jeered as he attempted to deliver his speech Tuesday, July 9 at the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain. Thompson, who was to talk about the Bush administration's Global AIDS Fund, was greeted by about 100 protesters after he reached the podium. The demonstrators carried placards that read, "Bush and Thompson Wanted: For the murder and neglect of PWAs."

Most of the protesters were from ACT UP chapters on the East Coast.

According to a CNN news account, Thompson stood and watched the protest for 15 minutes and then managed to finish an inaudible 10-minute speech before he left.

Other news accounts in the *New York Times* likened the protests to earlier in the AIDS epidemic when ACT UP members chained themselves to the doors of drug companies, squirted red liquid at scientists, and heckled political leaders.

The protesters said that Thompson continues to "make hollow arguments" that the U.S. is the largest contributor to the global fund, and pointed out that Norway contributes 25 times as much per citizen (as a percentage of the gross national product) as the U.S. does. They also accused the Bush administration of attacking science-based HIV prevention programs and supporting abstinence-only prevention programs.

Thompson said, "I understand the yelling and screaming. They [activists] would serve their cause much better if they would try and get other countries to contribute to the global fund like the United States." ▼

Former SF AIDS doc named to lead CDC

by Bob Roehr

Dr. Julie Gerberding was named to be the next director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson quelled the rumor mill by making the announcement official on his July 3 visit to CDC headquarters in Atlanta. She will be the first woman to lead that agency.

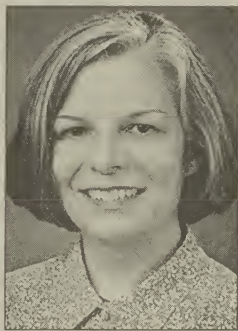
The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation, but should be without controversy. It comes three months after the last director, Jeffrey Koplan, departed. The nomination was made with "lightning" speed in a department where it is not unusual for positions such as director of the National Institutes of Health, head of

the Food and Drug Administration, or surgeon general to sit vacant for one or two years at a stretch.

Gerberding, 46, is a physician who attended medical school at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland and later acquired a master's degree in public health from the University of California, Berkeley.

As a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, she developed a model program for treating health care workers exposed to HIV on the job through needle sticks, and a parallel program for sexual exposure that has become known as post-exposure prophylaxis.

Gerberding moved to the CDC in 1998 and gained prominence during the anthrax scare last fall for her unflappable performance



Dr. Julie Gerberding

during that incident. She currently serves as acting deputy director for science and as one of four people in the management team guid-

ing the CDC since April.

"I absolutely adore Julie Gerberding," said Cornelius Baker, executive director of the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C., and co-chair of the National Coalition for LGBT Health. He has worked with her off and on for nearly a decade and finds Gerberding "very committed on HIV issues." She is "fair, analytical, and thoughtful," and "will bring a lot of integrity" to the CDC.

Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS, agreed. "I think that Gerberding's appointment sends a reassuring message that [the Bush administration] is going to listen to science as opposed to just doing politics, which, for a lot of folks, is an important message to hear."

Baker said the CDC "needs at-

tention to its management and systems" to see that programs function more efficiently. Several senior administrative positions remain to be filled at the agency.

One particular concern for Baker is that the billion dollar HIV/TB/STD program at the CDC has been without a permanent director since Helene Gayle departed last August for the Gates Foundation. About \$125 million of that program budget "goes out to other parts [of CDC] with little accountability" of how money is spent or how the outcomes are monitored.

Baker also sees the need for increased CDC involvement in other aspects of LGBT health, such as programs to stop smoking and even things as basic as gathering statistics on LGBT health, which is not always done. ▼

Largest AIDS vaccine study set to start this year

by Michael Smith,
UPI Science News

A new clinical study of an HIV vaccine involving 16,000 healthy volunteers will begin in Thailand this year with support from the U.S. government and private industry, officials announced Monday, July 8 at the XIV International AIDS Conference.

The \$36 million study will take five years, said Vallop Thaineau of the Thai Ministry of Health, and is expected to begin before the end of 2002 if regulators in the United States and Thailand approve.

It will be the largest study of an AIDS vaccine to date, although two smaller trials—sponsored by VaxGen Inc., of Brisbane, California—are expected to be finished within months. VaxGen is also involved in the new Thai study.

The study is a Phase III trial, in which researchers attempt to determine whether an experimental drug actually affects the outcome

of a disease. A U.S. Phase III trial of a similar AIDS vaccine was canceled at the beginning of this year, but Thaineau said the cancellation "in no way affects our decision to move forward" because the decision was based on technical grounds.

Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said the previous Phase III trial was canceled because earlier phases failed to meet a pre-set laboratory standard, not because of concerns about the drug's safety or effectiveness. By contrast, he said, the Thai trial will observe people who have been given the vaccine to see if it protects them against the disease.

"This is a safe vaccine," Fauci said. "The question is, will it work."

Jim Tartaglia, head of research for Aventis Pasteur Inc., in Lyon, France, which is making part of the vaccine to be tested, told United Press International the U.S. trial was intended to examine how the vaccine works.

"Now we're looking at whether it works," he said.

Thaineau said the 16,000 healthy volunteers will be selected randomly to receive either the vaccine or a non-active placebo. After five years, researchers will see which group had more HIV infections. The vaccine itself will be given in two stages. The first will "prime" the immune system, and the second will "boost" the effect, he said.

Aventis Pasteur is making the first-stage vaccine, while VaxGen is making the booster. VaxGen's booster is already in a Phase III clinical trial in Thailand, involving 2,500 injection drug users, who are considered to be at high risk for HIV. That trial should be finished late next year, VaxGen President Donald Francis said Monday.

A similar VaxGen vaccine, targeting a slightly different HIV strain, is expected to deliver Phase III results before the end of 2002, Francis said. "We will have an answer as to efficacy of this vaccine within months," he said. ▼

Gay Asians strut at Runway 2002

by Matthew S. Bajko

Forget about those boring Miss America pageants. The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance's Runway 2002 this Saturday night is where real beauty is to be found.

The 14th annual competition to crown the year's Mr. and Miss GAPA is one part body-building competition, one part beauty contest, one part drag show, and a whole lot of camp and spectacle.

According to GAPA, the selection of Miss GAPA helps the API community embrace the diversity of gender expression and celebrate the cultural significance of trans-genders within the community.

"I don't think many folks understand the important role drag queens, cross-dressers and transgendered people have played in different cultures, especially in Asian countries," said Jeanette Lazam, a former San Francisco human rights commissioner.

Similarly, the competition to

become Mr. GAPA helps Asian men spotlight their own sexuality and maleness, images often left out of mainstream American society.

"Rather than follow an arbitrary ideal of what makes a man, participants are encouraged to create their own models of masculinity," said Dino Duazo, a former organizer of the pageant.

In order to win the title of Mr. and Miss GAPA, contestants must first pass muster with a panel of judges consisting of local community leaders and personalities who serve as positive role models in the API communities. Once the two winners are crowned, they must publicly represent GAPA at various appearances and help promote the agency's goals within the greater Asian and Pacific Islander population.

This year's event will feature performances by the GAPA Dance Company and the Men of Na Lei Hula I Ka Wekiu Dance Company. Hosted by Tita Aida, this year's

Runway is sponsored by AsiaSF, Ntouch and Noodle magazine.

The show begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 13 at the Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco. Tickets cost \$20 to \$50 and can be purchased by calling (415) 392-4400. ▼

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TGs can now file claims with DFEH

by Sheryl I. Harris and Shannon Minter

The following is an occasional column compiled by the Transgender Law Project that answers basic legal questions of interest to San Francisco's transgender, intersex, gender-variant, and genderqueer communities.

Q: In your last column on employment discrimination, you suggested that transgender people file a claim with the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH). I've heard that the DFEH won't take complaints from transgender people. Is that true?

A: The short answer is that while DFEH did not accept these complaints in the past; they do now. If you or anyone you know encounters any problems in this regard, you should contact one of

our offices immediately (contact information below).

To understand the reason for this shift, it is helpful to understand how the law has developed in the last several years. Until recently, transgender people had little recourse from workplace discrimination and harassment. Even though advocates have long argued that transgender people should be protected by sex discrimination laws, courts largely ignored these arguments. Recently, though, courts and administrative bodies throughout the country – including California – have recognized that discrimination against transgender and gender non-conforming people is a form of sex discrimination.

DFEH is the state agency that receives and investigates all complaints of discrimination filed under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA),

the state law that prohibits discrimination in employment and housing based on race, sex, religious creed, color, national origin, age, disability, pregnancy, medical condition, marital status, ancestry, and sexual orientation. It is the state counterpart of the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which enforces Title VII.

Like its sister organizations in other states, DFEH has responded to the positive trend in the case law by recognizing that it must accept complaints based on gender identity and gender non-conformity. If you are encountering discrimination or harassment at work, and your efforts to resolve the situation informally with your employer have been unsuccessful, filing a complaint with the DFEH is the next step in securing legal protection. It is also a necessary precursor to filing a lawsuit.

The basics of FEHA coverage for TGs

Under FEHA, transgender and gender non-conforming people are protected from discrimination on the basis of sex. Depending on the circumstances, transgender and gender non-conforming people might also be protected on the basis of disability and perceived sexual orientation. (For further explanation of these protections, contact one of our offices to receive a Gender Identity and Employment Discrimination publication.) The law covers discrimination such as discharge, demotion and refusal to hire; transfer to a less desirable position; failure to use appropriate names, pronouns and titles; failure to allow bathroom use according to gender identity; and harassment by co-workers, supervisors or management, among others.

Recognizing and proving discrimination

If you believe you have been subject to a negative employment action – such as demotion, transfer, or non-promotion – because of your transgender status, you must be able to show that you were treated differently than other similarly situated, non-transgender employees. For example, if you were hired before a non-transgender employee with the same experience, and this person was promoted over you, this person could be a similarly-situated non-transgender employee, or “comparator,” for purposes of proving your case. You must also disprove any legitimate non-discriminatory reason your employer may provide as a reason for not promoting you (for example, poor work performance).

To prove a harassment case, you must show that: (1) the harassing conduct is severe or pervasive; and (2) the harassment was directed at you because of your sex. Isolated incidents are not enough. Physical touching or assault, for example, is considered severe; conduct occurring regularly for an extended period is considered pervasive. To show that you are the target of harassment “because of sex,” you must show that the treatment was directed at you because of your sex, which includes gender stereotyping. For example, a co-worker refers to you with slurs such as “drag queen” or

“he/she,” or makes comments indicating that you do not meet stereotypical notions about how a man or woman should act, such as commenting on your hair, clothing, manner of speaking or walking, etc. The conduct need not be sexual in nature.



Legal Translations

One note of caution: employment discrimination cases can be extremely difficult to prove. Although you may have suffered extreme or blatant discrimination, you may have little legal recourse if you cannot produce evidence in the form of comparators, witnesses, or other documentation of the discriminatory conduct.

Filing an administrative complaint

The first step in dealing with discrimination or harassment is to report it to your employer or union and to attempt to resolve the situation through your employer's internal complaint process and/or the union grievance process. An employer can't be held liable for harassment if the employer is not aware of what is happening.

If you cannot resolve an incident of discrimination or harassment with your employer internally, filing a complaint with the DFEH is the next step. You must file a complaint with the DFEH within one year of the last act of discrimination. If you do not file within this time, you lose your right to pursue your complaint with the agency or in court. There is no cost to file a complaint, and filing can be done without the assistance of an attorney.

To file a complaint, contact the DFEH Communications Center at (800) 884-1684 and state clearly that you believe you have been discriminated against because you are transgender or gender non-conforming. If your situation meets certain legal requirements (such as the filing deadlines noted above), you will receive an appointment time at the DFEH office closest to you. You will also be sent a questionnaire by mail asking you to detail the facts of the discrimination.

In filling out the questionnaire, it is essential that you indicate each possible basis of discrimination (sex, disability, sexual orientation, etc.). It can also be helpful, although the form does not request it, to attach a one or two-page summary explaining why you believe what happened was discrimination. Be sure to include a description of any comparators, and the names and contact information of any witnesses to the discrimination or harassment. Preparing a timeline or a log of each incident, especially in the case of harassment, can also be very helpful. Include the date, time, a description of the incident and any witnesses who observed the incident.

At the interview, you will meet with a consultant who is responsible for collecting information from you, drafting your discrimination complaint, and ultimately investigating your case. Retain the name and contact information of the consultant, because she will be your contact throughout the process.

During the interview, provide information about any comparators, the names and contact information of witnesses, and any documentary evidence, such as notes, e-mail, or letters from your employer. Be sure to indicate that you wish the

DFEH to cross-file your complaint with EEOC, which will ensure that you retain your right to sue under federal law as well. (Thanks to a work-sharing agreement between DFEH and EEOC, you need not file with both agencies, but you do need to make sure that DFEH cross-files your complaint.)

After the interview, you will receive a draft complaint in the mail. Check to make sure that the boxes for each kind of discrimination you are claiming are checked, that the date of the last incident of discrimination is correctly noted, and that the statement of facts is complete and accurate. Also make sure that the box indicating your desire to have the complaint cross-filed with the EEOC is checked, and that the complaint has been assigned both a DFEH and EEOC complaint number. Contact the consultant before you sign if any changes are necessary.

Once you sign and return the complaint, the DFEH will send a copy to your employer, who will be required to provide a written response within a few weeks. You may ask the consultant to read the employer's response to you over the phone. The response can provide important information about what you will have to prove to prevail; for example, refuting an employer's claim that you were not promoted because of poor work performance, rather than because you are transgender or gender non-conforming.

The DFEH will then begin its investigation, which can last for several months or up to a year. The investigation will be most effective if you can provide specific names and contact information for people that can corroborate your story. Check in with the DFEH consultant periodically to find out how the investigation is proceeding and to provide any additional information that may be useful.

At the end of the investigation, the DFEH will issue a “right-to-sue letter” that includes one of three findings: (1) that the DFEH believes discrimination did occur, (2) that the DFEH believes it did not, or (3) that there is insufficient evidence for the DFEH to determine whether discrimination occurred. A finding of discrimination can be very useful in any lawsuit you may bring, but a finding of no discrimination or insufficient evidence does not preclude you from bringing suit. At any time during the investigation, you may request that the DFEH stop its investigation and issue you a right to sue letter.

You must file a lawsuit within one year of the date of the right-to-sue letter, or you will lose your opportunity to file. To file a lawsuit under federal law, you must do so within 90 days of receipt of the right-to-sue letter from EEOC.

For information or assistance in filing a complaint with DFEH, contact Chris Daley at the Transgender Law Project of the National Center for Lesbian Rights at (415) 392-6257 or Sheryl Harris at the Legal Aid Society – Employment Law Center at (415) 864-8848.

The information provided in this column is not intended as a substitute for legal advice. If you have a legal question about your specific circumstances, please contact an attorney or the appropriate government agency. ▼

The Transgender Law Project is co-sponsored by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the Pride Law Fund.

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B.A.R. freelancer Marvin S. Shaw dies at 79

by Cynthia Laird

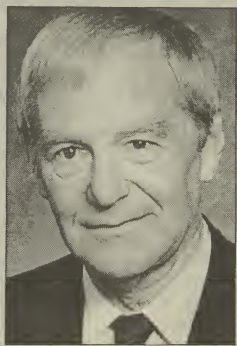
Marvin S. Shaw, who was a freelance writer for the *Bay Area Reporter* for many years, died June 2 after a sudden illness. He was 79.

Family members said Mr. Shaw will be remembered with deep caring and honor by all those who knew him. He is survived by his domestic partner of 34 years, Peter Macris, of San Carlos, and his sister and brother-in-law, Doris and William Spear, of Mercer Island, Washington.

Born February 24, 1923 in Tacoma, Washington, Mr. Shaw was the adored son of Park W. and Ester F. (Lyphardt) Shaw.

Mr. Shaw received his bachelor of arts degree in education from Pacific Lutheran College. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. He taught language arts in Washington state and at Menlo-Atherton High School in the Bay Area.

Later, Mr. Shaw was a language arts professor at Skyline College in San Bruno, where he worked until his retirement. He was a regular



Marvin S. Shaw

contributor to the B.A.R. until a few months before his death, and he had written for the *Advocate*. In 1991, Mr. Shaw co-authored a book (with Robert B. Warren and Richard B. Warren), entitled *A Viewer's Guide to Art: A Glossary of Gods, People, and Creatures*.

In addition to his lifelong study of language arts, Mr. Shaw's interests included music, theater, art, and travel. He was also active in political and social causes, and was a longtime member of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City.

A memorial service will be held

Fausto Alegado
December 2, 1947 — June 6, 2002



Our beloved Fausto died peacefully at his home in Columbus, Ohio, where he had moved with his partner Thomas Fisher in 1997. He lived well with HIV for 20 years and died of liver disease related to hepatitis C. An 18-year resident of San Francisco, he was loved and respected by everyone who knew him. Indeed, he illuminated our lives and inspired us. We remember him for his gifts of presence and compassion, for his physical beauty, and for his boundless talents as a cook and interior designer. With him when he died were his brother Joe, and friends Jan, Thomas, and Tim. He is survived by his parents, his brother, his sisters Pat, Gloria, and Mari, and a host of friends in San Francisco, Columbus, south Texas, and around the world. Letters of condolence may be sent to his parents, Fausto and Aurora Alegado, at 1914 Juarez, Corpus Christi, TX 78416. A celebration of Fausto's life is being planned for late summer in San Francisco. Inquiries about this event may be sent to thomasfish@aol.com

on Saturday, August 3 at 2 p.m. at the UUFCR, 2124 Brewster Avenue, in Redwood City. For more information, call (650) 365-6913.

Contributions in Mr. Shaw's memory may be made to Skyline College, with a note referring to the Language Arts Memorial Scholarship in memory of Marvin Shaw. Contributions can be sent to Skyline College Development Department, Room 1318, 3300 College Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066. ▼

James E. Averill
1943 — 2992



On Sunday, July 7, '02, James Averill, beloved partner and husband of Tracy St. Cyr, passed on to a heavenly home. He was born November 6, 1943 in New York City, but he grew up in Council, Idaho.

After graduating from high school, he moved to Eugene, and later to Portland, both cities in Oregon. In 1988, he and Tracy met, and a short time later they both agreed on "Domestic Partnership," and they remained a couple in love with each other until he was called home. He'll be greatly and deeply missed by all. A celebration of his life will be held in the near future.

Corey Mees
1961 — 2002



Transitioned peacefully from this world lovingly surrounded by family and friends on July 7, 2002, due to AIDS-related complications. Devoted son of Hillard Mees, Mary Mees-Bosch, and Pete Bosch; beloved life partner of Paul Candler; dear friend of Colleen Butler; cherished brother of Larry Mees, Brian Mees, Vicky (Allen) Miller, and Darwin Mees; adored uncle of Stephanie and Tyler Mees, Christopher and Nicholas Miller, and Zachary and Benjamin Matera.

Compassionate, open-hearted, generous, and kind, Corey was passionate about conservation and the environment, reflecting his deep love and respect for nature. He found solace and joy at the ocean, in the forest, in the fields of sunflowers that grow in his native North Dakota home, and in the garden sanctuary he tenderly nurtured with his life partner, Paul. Everything and everyone he had contact with was made

more beautiful by his presence. He touched gently, tread lightly, loved easily, and was easy to love. He is survived by a grateful circle of family and friends, including his precious kitty, Rose. His grace and light will inspire us always. To have shared our path in this life with Corey has been a blessing, an honor, and a privilege. Deep peace, sweet spirit.

A celebration of Corey's life will be held on Thursday, July 11 at 5 p.m. in Corey and Paul's garden, 811 Balboa Street, San Francisco.

Glenn B. Urshott

Suddenly passed away at his residence on July 5, 2002. Glenn will be forever missed by his partner, Jose Maria Condemni. Beloved son of Gloria and Beverly Urshott of Ilderton, Ontario, Canada, special brother of Kim and Philip McKenzie and favorite uncle to Lucas, Alexander and Hayley McKenzie. Glenn touched the lives of his many friends and patients at UCSF Medical Center. A celebration of Glenn's life was held at his residence on Wednesday, July 10, 2002. Donations can be made in Glenn's memory to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Positive Pedalers start monthly bike rides

by Cynthia Laird

Positive Pedalers, a group of men and women who are living with HIV and have discovered the benefits and joys of group bicycle riding, will begin holding monthly rides, member Mark Dunlop has announced.

The first ride is planned for next Saturday, July 20. The group will meet at 9:30 a.m. at McClaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, and ride the Tiburon Loop, a 40-mile trek, stopping for lunch in

Tiburon. Riders who want a shorter ride can leave in Sausalito or Tiburon, taking the ferry back to San Francisco from either location.

"Our main priority is to put a positive face on HIV and AIDS," said Dunlop. He added that the new monthly trips are free and open to anyone who's HIV-positive and has an interest in cycling.

Positive Pedalers members have participated in various cycling and non-cycling events. The group offers support for its members, while giving back significantly through participation in

fundraising events for AIDS service organizations.

Dunlop said that Positive Pedalers will meet every third Saturday from now on for rides of varying distances to allow for different skill levels. The August trip being planned includes a bike ride to Tiburon or Sausalito and then a ferry ride to Angel Island for a picnic and a loop around the island. Group members will be notified of the monthly trips via e-mail.

For more information or to sign up for the e-mail list, call Dunlop at (415) 474-9512. ▼

Galliano Liqueur sponsors contest for GLBT Historical Society

by Joe Dignan

You'll get prosperity, posterity, and publicity if you win a contest sponsored by Galliano Liqueur and the San Francisco GLBT Historical Society of Northern California.

Send them a piece of writing (500 words maximum) or one visual image (photography, painting, or whatever you want) that shows how "you've pushed boundaries and made your own history."

"Tell us," the contest rules say, "how you dare to be different."

Take that however you like, but if you win, you'll get \$1,000, you'll be published in the *Advocate*, and your piece will be archived in the historical society's collection.

"We're doing the contest as a way to pique some interest in helping us understand what history means to queer people," said Susan Stryker, the historical society's executive director. "We want to know what people think is important about what they've done."

"Don't belabor it," Stryker said. "It's 500 words or one image, maximum. Just send it."

Galliano is helping the historical society by sponsoring the contest — and also giving the society cash (\$3,000 last year, \$5,000 this year) and some free publicity to reward its efforts to build a new museum of GLBT history, culture, and politics in San Francisco.

The new \$30 million museum would be built on Market Street in the "mid-Market redevelopment zone." The city has already provided \$75,000 in seed money to do feasibility studies, along with \$25,000 from the San Francisco Foundation.

The historical society recently merged with the Los Angeles-based International Museum of Gay and Lesbian History which, Stryker said, has excellent marketing skills, brand management, and corporate sponsorship ability, but, she said, "what they don't have is a collection."

The society's collections of source material about queer history, photographs, magazines, and

other materials are the second largest in the state, but are currently stored in a cramped reading room at 973 Market Street.

Stryker would also like to digitize the society's collections and get them available on the Web. That, however, Stryker said "will be a long-term project."

"For example, given the current state of the art," she said, digitizing the society's complete run of this newspaper, all 31 years' worth, would cost about \$5 million.

What the society is doing is making a table of contents for its extensive periodical collection. The society has combined efforts with the One Institute in Los Angeles, the other major repository of primary research sources in gay and lesbian history in California, and two other smaller collections to make an online list of who has what issues of what newspapers and magazines. That should be done in October.

The deadline for the Galliano contest is August 15. Send submissions to 701 Minna Street #10, San Francisco, CA 94103. ▼

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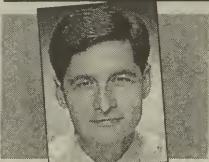


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Heat wave

by Jim Provenzano

With all this hot weather, the best remedy would be to jump in a nice cool swimming pool. Some of the people who dive in regularly are members of Team Tsunami. Many are competing this weekend, July 12-14, in Santa Cruz at the Pacific Masters Swimming Long Course Championships.

It's part of their preparation for Gay Games in Sydney this November.

There'll be plenty of handsome guys with V-shaped torsos, and tanned athletic women. But Tsunami is hardly a hunks-only group. The team's mission of in-

clusivity includes multiple medal-winning athletes and steadfast novices.

Their impressive roster of coaches includes Joe Healy, Steve Martel, Scott Robinson, Stuart Towns, Bjorn Holtan, and Gabriel Speyer.

A notable Tsunami member (and water polo player), architect John Lum's designs include AsiaSF and the Hayes and Vine Wine Bar. He was also a cast member of the local production of *Naked Boys Singing*.

Other swimmer/artists include the team's resident photographer, Rémy Lemoine. You can find out more about them and the team at www.sftsunami.org.

According to Tsunami veteran, hunk Tim Lane, "Tsunami is sending 65 swimmers to Sydney, which is the largest team ever sent to the Gay Games, and one of the largest contingents going to Sydney this year."

Tsunami will host the 2003 IGLA Championships, which will take place at Stanford University, August 22-24, 2003. They expect to welcome 1,200 swimmers, divers, and polo players for three days of intense yet friendly Speedo-clad competition.

Not in Kansas anymore

Chuck Killingsworth focuses on breast stroke and 50-meter freestyle. The Sydney-bound swimmer competed in high school in his native Kansas, but only got back into it here in San Francisco when he heard about

Tsunami. Being a gay jock was a well-kept secret.

"The nice thing is, now you can be on a gay sports team, and you don't have to worry about it," said Killingsworth, who is a nurse.

He agrees that swimming is healthy for people of all ages. "At swim meets, you see people in their 80s who are breaking records. It's not hard on your joints."

"My goals are to improve my time every year at Tsunami meets. I've been a slow person as far as speed, but the nice thing with Tsunami is that everybody's welcome. It's more about helping everybody improve. There are some very fast people, but also those we call in 'the developing lane.'"

After Sydney, Killingsworth and his partner will travel to Cairnes, and watch other events like rugby and soccer and ice skating.

"It's nice that there's the social part, and we can still go to Gay Games." He loves the hilarious Pink Flamingo drag/water ballet event, a standard at all annual International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics meets. This year's IGLA will coincide with Gay Games.

Healing waters

Felicia Ferlin swam competitively through most of her childhood in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as well as studying dance, gymnastics, and track.

However, she said, "Going from someone who can do that, to someone who can barely open a door, was difficult."

After moving to Burlingame in 1997, Ferlin developed thoracic outlet syndrome, altered neural dynamics, and chronic myofascial pain from a repetitive strain injury. Simple movements became increasingly painful.

"My home office was set up for my work as a technical trainer. Working long hours, as well as travel, contributed to it."

Ferlin initially started a tentative plan of aqua-therapy, inching along at 50 yards a week. "In a few months, I was up to 500 then 1,000. I decided to join the masters league to get motivated. I started out slowly, but then improved."

"Backstroke made my symptoms decrease. It helped with getting circulation in my arms, and strengthened my back and front torso muscles. Working on a computer, you're hunched over, so backstroke is the opposite."

With an MFA in professional writing from Carnegie Mellon University, Ferlin is now hoping to continue her writing in a healthy way. Although married to a man, Ferlin considers herself bisexual, and finds the Tsunami environment welcoming to anyone.

The weather helps, too. "When you grow up in Pittsburgh, you're not used to swimming outside in December," as she does in Burlingame.

Her plans for Sydney include "going out a bit early to prevent jet lag, getting acclimated, seeing the sites. My husband will come in for opening ceremonies. After that, we're staying through November 16, perhaps traveling along the India Pacific Railway."

Part of her aquatic inspiration is her relationship with her sister. "We were really competitive as kids," she said. "She has boxes of ribbons and medals. I'm hoping to get her to come to a meet and beat me."

A highlight of her meets included getting a gold medal in the 200-meter backstroke, defeating a former Olympic medalist who was battling lupus. She found it to be inspiring. "A lot of adults are



Diving in: Tsunami swimmers take off at a recent meet.

getting over some physical condition."

No matter what your skill level, getting in the swim is a good thing.

To find out more about the team, Masters Swimming, local pools, and more, visit www.sftsunami.org, or write SF Tsunami Swim Club, P.O. Box 31983, San Francisco, CA 94131-0983.

Sign up, mate

With just one month left before registration closes for Sydney 2002 Gay

Games, deadlines are approaching.

More than 10,000 athletes and artists registered to participate in the Games and six sports have already closed. Previous experience has shown that there is a huge rush of registrations as the closing date approaches, so don't leave it until the last minute or you will miss out.

The U.S. \$195 registration fee covers:

- Entry into your first sport or cultural event as a participant (additional events are just U.S. \$30);

- Participation in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies;

- An eight-day Gay Games travel pass valid on trains, buses, and ferries

- The much-valued participation medal;

- Eight days of fun!

The Gay Games press release says, "There's no other event anywhere in the world in which gays, lesbians, transgenders, straights, Olympic champions, amateur weekend athletes, people with disabilities, people living with HIV, those just out of the closet and those approaching their 10th decade, can all take part together, in the spirit of participation, inclusion, and personal best."

I couldn't agree more.

For more information about Sydney 2002 Gay Games go to www.sydney2002.org.au.

To find out about local participation, visit www.teamsf.org. You can get on the team's e-mail list for regular updates, and info on travel deals, uniforms, and sponsorships. Learn about applying for its scholarship fund, and its August 17 wine-tasting fundraiser.

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Gay Sperm Donors Wanted by Lesbians

Lesbians Want Donors to Play "Uncle"

If you volunteer to be a sperm donor at Rainbow Flag Health Services & Sperm Bank you can have an ongoing relationship with your biological children. Being a donor also means you are not the legal parent so you are not financially responsible.

Rainbow Flag Health Services & Sperm Bank is the first and only fertility service specifically for the Lesbian and Gay community. We have just had our 40th birth.

Donor information line 510-523-7737 or visit our web site at

GaySpermBank.com

Entertainment

◀ page 4

one police officer.

But people shouldn't put on their dancing shoes just yet.

Because three of the members are to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and four by the mayor, the commission's appointments will need a charter amendment which will be on the ballot in the November election. Even if that ballot measure fails, because of the way the city charter is written there will still be a commission, but the mayor will appoint all of its members.

The mayor could also veto the ordinance, which his finance director, Ben Rosenfield, said will cost the city an extra \$500,000 in next year's budget. Even though the ordinance cleared the board by

eight votes – enough to override a mayoral veto – supporters are still nervous.

And even if all goes according to Leno's plan, the commission won't come into existence until next July, when a new budget cycle starts.

The problem matters to the city as a whole, not just party people. Even after September 11, tourism is still San Francisco's number one business – although it's been badly hurt; and San Francisco's nightlife has always been part of this city's attractiveness. It has been a magnet for both tourists and immigrants since the Barbary Coast flourished by the waterfront before the turn of the last century.

But who, Alan asked, "wants to travel to an expensive city where there's nothing more to do at night than back home?" ▼

CLASSIFIEDS

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS SURVEYING AND MAPPING SERVICES
The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is seeking a panel of consultants to provide surveying and mapping services on an as-needed basis for all Redevelopment Project Areas, Survey Areas, and other designated sites.

Copies of Request for Qualifications may be obtained from:

Mr. Ara Derounian
Architecture & Engineering Dept.
SF Redevelopment Agency
770 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3120
Tel: 415-749-2444

Responses to RFQ's are due: Friday, July 26, 2002, 4:00 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
Fundraiser/Grant/Contracts Coordinator, Department of the Environment, City of San Francisco.
\$2,000 - \$2,442 bi-weekly. www.environment.com. Deadline - July 19, 2002.
Environmental Specialist for the City and County of San Francisco, Department of the Environment.
Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Healthy Air Program Legislation, the Healthy Air and Smog Ordinance and other environmental laws and regulations. For a complete job announcement: www.environment.org. 355-3700. Deadline - July 26, 2002.

deYOUNG ART CENTER
Programs for families and children at the de Young Art Center located at 2501 Irving St (at 26th Ave.)
Information: 415-682-2483

July 13, 20, 27
Saturdays
2 PM to 3:30 PM
Family Workshops. Families will use a variety of media to explore different art themes. Ages 3-12 to 12 with accompanying adult. Free. Drop-in no pre-registration necessary.

July 17 - 19
3:30 PM to 5 PM
July 24 - 26
3:30 PM to 5 pm
Summer Workshops for Families: Clay. Ages 7 - 14 with accompanying adult.
Summer Workshops for Families: Collage. Ages 7 - 14 with accompanying adult.

MUNI PUBLIC MEETING IN BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT
Muni would like to hear your ideas about potential improvements to routes that serve this neighborhood: 54 Felton, 29 Sunset, 44 O'Shaughnessy, 23 Monterey.

Monday, July 22, 2002 - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Southeast Community Facility
1800 Okland Ave. (near Phelps)
Alex Pitcher Community Room

For more information, please call 415-934-3999

SEFUC INVITATION FOR BIDS: WD-2327 REPAIRS AND UPGRADES AT BADEN VALVE LOT AND PUMP STATION

Contract work will include installing pump station standby generator and surge suppression system; replacing valve lot water sampling station and conducting equipment and building seismic upgrade. The work will be in San Mateo County, CA. The Engineer's estimate is \$4,000,000. A Class "A" California Contractors License is required to bid.
A pre-bid conference and site inspection will be held on July 19, 2002, 10 AM at the main conference room of 1000 El Camino Real, Millbrae, CA 94030.
Sealed bids are due on August 1, 2002, 2:00 PM at 1155 Market St., 7th Fl., between 7th and 8th Sts.) SF, CA 94103, in Rm. 700. Plans, specifications and bidding documents are available at the same location at no cost, by fax (415) 554-3225, or by phone (415) 554-3497. Check website for updates: <http://usnet.ci.ca.gov/fbids.nsf>.

CONCESSION OPPORTUNITY AT SFO

SFO will conduct a Pre-Proposal Conference for the Terminal 3 Professional/Collegiate Team Sports Theme Store Lease.

SFO is preparing to conduct a selection process through a Request for Proposal for the above-mentioned Lease, which consists of the approximately 526 square feet of retail space, located post-security of Terminal 3. The successful Proposer will be required to sell merchandise related to professional and college team sports theme merchandise. At this Conference, staff will discuss the desired concept, minimum qualification requirements, address any questions relating to this Lease and receive comments from participants.

Staff has scheduled the Pre-Proposal Conference for Wednesday, July 31, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. The Conference will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of Terminal 2.

Information and documents may be obtained by calling Vic Bartolomeo of Airport Concession Development and Management at (650) 821-4500.

07/11/02

CNS-415876#

BAY AREA REPORTER

STATEMENT FILE 258176

The following person(s) are doing business as: Royal Ground Coffee, 2060 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Z. Rocker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/03/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258175

The following person(s) are doing business as: Wash N' Royal, 2066 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Z. Rocker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/03/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258380

The following person(s) are doing business as: San Miguel Restaurant #2 3263 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Juana Gomez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/11/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

CONCESSION OPPORTUNITY AT SFO

SFO will conduct a Pre-Proposal Conference for the Boarding Area "F" Gifts and Souvenirs Kiosk Lease.

SFO is preparing to conduct a selection process through a Request for Proposal for the above-mentioned Lease, which consists of approximately 250 square feet of retail space, located post-security of Terminal 3. The successful Proposer will be required to sell gifts and souvenirs reflective of San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area. At this Conference, staff will discuss the desired concept, minimum qualification requirements, address any questions relating to this Lease and receive comments from participants.

Staff has scheduled the Pre-Proposal Conference for Thursday, July 17, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. The Conference will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of Terminal 2.

Information and documents may be obtained by calling Tormai Toki of Airport Concession Development and Management at (650) 821-4500.

07/11/02

CNS-415863#

BAY AREA REPORTER

STATEMENT FILE 258684

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lanxang Thai Video, 626 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jieng Chanthavong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/21/2002.

JUNE 27, JULY 3, 11, 18, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258924

The following person(s) are doing business as: Master Automotive, 262 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yi Zhawang Zhou. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 2, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258572

The following person(s) are doing business as: Geneva Jacuzzi And Tanning, 974 Geneva Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thuy Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 13, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/17/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 257961

The following person(s) are doing business as: Doctor Diesel Truck Sales, 401 Terry Francis Blvd. #132, San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark Anthony Armstrong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/23/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258045

The following person(s) are doing business as: Aijlon Finance, 44 Montgomery Street, Ste. #2310, San Francisco, CA 94104. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Diana R. Karabelas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258845

The following person(s) are doing business as: At Home Fertility Services 1530 Dolores Street #6 San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an general partnership signed Jennifer Bauman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/24/2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/28/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258507

The following person(s) are doing business as: Cusum Entertainment And Production, 1419 Quesada Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Gregory L. Griffin and Carl E. Gardner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 14, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/14/2002.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258591

The following person(s) are doing business as: Prestige Electric, 325 Buckingham Way Apt. 501, San Francisco, CA 94132. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yevgeniy Iolin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/18/2002.

JUNE 27, JULY 3, 11, 18, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258571

The following person(s) are doing business as: R.P.A.R. Designs, 631 O'Farrell Street #308, San Francisco, CA 94109. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Raul P. Panglinian and Antonio R. Rubin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/15/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/17/2002.

JUNE 27, JULY 3, 11, 18, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258965

The following person(s) are doing business as: Scholl Solutions, 160 8th Street, Ste. #8, San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mike D. Scholl. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258140

The following person(s) are doing business as: Echophone Interior Design, 1206 4th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Susan Williamson/president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/31/2002.

JUNE 27, JULY 3, 11, 18, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258639

The following person(s) are doing business as: Theo-SF, 414 Liberty Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Theo Eldon Garcia. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/19/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/19/2002.

JUNE 27, JULY 3, 11, 18, 2002

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 227662

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Lanxang Thai Video Rental. Located at: 640 Turk Street #48, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 12/22/1998. This business was conducted by: a individual: Kene Keo Bandaphone

JUNE 27, JULY 4, 11, 18, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258775

The following person(s) are doing business as: Cecile & Jeanne, 2086 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Perry M. Bryer, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/26/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

N THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-02-540290

In the Matter of the Application of Patricia deBeruff Waite. For change of Name. The application of Patricia deBeruff Waite for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Patricia deBeruff Waite has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Joseph DeBeruff Waite. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 30th day of July at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258004

The following person(s) are doing business as: California State Funding Group, 767 Panorama Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Pamela Lamarre. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/28/2002.

JUNE 6, 13, 20, 27, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258980

The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Health Support, 2579 32nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116-2953. This business is conducted by an individual signed Matthew Stuart Kramer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 3, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/03/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258936

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sigillo Properties, 1623- Yosemite Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by tenants-in-common signed Joseph Sigillo; Dominic Sigillo and Phillip Sigillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-02-540327

In the Matter of the Application of Rachel Amie Benjamin. For change of Name. The application of Rachel Amie Benjamin for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Rachel Amie Benjamin has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Amie Pascal. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of August at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259088

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lopez Painting, 1463 Thomas Avenue #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hildan Lopez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 08, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/09/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258720

The following person(s) are doing business as: Jack Austin & Associates, 2800 Filbert Street, #6, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jack A. Austin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 24, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/24/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

N THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.02-540315

In the Matter of the Application of Aaron Dean Beierschmitt For change of Name. The application of Aaron Dean Beierschmitt for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Aaron Dean Beierschmitt, has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Aaron Dean Toomey. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 13th day of August, 2002, at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.02-540321

In the Matter of the Application of Frederick Bernard Sims. For change of Name. The application of Frederick Bernard Sims for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Frederick Bernard Sims, has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Frederick Freedom Bernard Sims. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 19th day of August, 2002, at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 20, 27, JULY 3, 11, 2002

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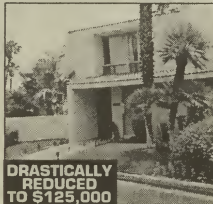
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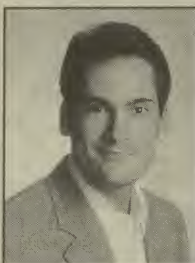
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Because of continued organizational growth and new programs, we are currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

Development Coordinator: Assist in all aspects of individual, corporate and foundation donor relations and solicitation. Support marketing and event strategies as well as efforts to increase income from various organization constituencies. Must be a team player that thrives in a fast-paced environment while maintaining a sense of humor. Excellent writing and communication skills required. Ability to work independently and as a member of the team. Must be able to manage diverse tasks simultaneously. B.A degree, and a minimum of 2 years prior development experience required. Direct Mail, Grant preparation and Special Event experience strongly preferred. \$39 - 40K DOE.

HIV Prevention Coordinator: This newly created position is designed to enhance and implement HIV prevention strategies throughout our continuum of services. The ideal candidate will have advanced knowledge of HIV/AIDS and prevention strategies, risk-reduction strategies, excellent communication and planning skills. Understanding of client-centered HIV prevention intervention strategies, experience developing curricula and implementing new programs. Experience coordinating HIV prevention services and HIV Risk Assessment and Disclosure counseling program. Certified HIV test counselor for at least 3 years. Experience working with at-risk youth, preferably with homeless and runaway adolescents and young adults. BA required, MA or MSW preferred. Supervise all aspects of HIV prevention program at multiple LSYS sites and at collaborating agencies. Supervise HIV prevention and testing counselors. Develop HIV Prevention curricula and supervise group- and individual-level HIV prevention interventions. \$39 - 40K DOE.

Substance Abuse Services Coordinator (SASC): The successful candidate will implement LSYS' Substance Abuse initiative at 6 program sites, coordinate the efforts of 7 Substance Abuse Specialists, directly supervise 3 Peer Counselors, facilitate weekly team meetings, and coordinate the substance abuse training curriculum. The SASC will lead the agency in the modification of the substance abuse intervention to address the unique needs of homeless and runaway youth ages 12 - 23. Ability to work with actively using clients in creating life-stabilization plans. The Coordinator will partner closely with the research and evaluation department to collect and document qualitative and quantitative data that reflects the effectiveness of the substance abuse interventions. Program management responsibilities include grant reporting and budget management, personnel and hiring, including recruiting of staff (with HR). Masters in counseling field, and three to five years of experience working with adolescents. Two years of supervisory experience preferred. \$41 - 42K DOE.

All positions are full time and receive medical, dental, vision, long-term disability, life, legal, and employee assistance plan. Three weeks vacation accrual in first year, twelve agency holidays annually.

Larkin Street Youth Services is an equal opportunity employer. We place a high value on workforce diversity.

Send cover letters and resumes to:

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1044 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
Fax: (415) 749-3838 e-mail: jobs@larkinstreetyouth.org
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

JOBS OFFERED

Position announcement
Program Manager

The Living Center is a new contract from the County of Santa Clara and is envisioned as a peer-driven drop-in HIV/AIDS program and facility. The contractor, Positive Resources of Santa Clara County, seeks a full-time Program Manager who will establish and manage the Living Center facility and programs, and has the ability to particularly focus on the needs of ethnic populations and the needs of women.

Job Summary. The Program Manager will establish and manage a facility that is a safe and supportive environment for persons living with HIV/AIDS, and provides direct services such as support groups and peer counseling as well as programs designed to increase accessibility to existing HIV services in Santa Clara County. The Program Manager must be able to focus on the needs of ethnic populations and the needs of women, both of who have special concerns relating to accessibility and other barriers to services. In recognition of the fact that the majority of HIV infected people in Santa Clara County are gay men, the Program Manager will work closely with the local Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community to make sure their specific needs and concerns are met. Substantive experience with HIV/AIDS issues is necessary. The Program Manager will report to the President of the Board of Directors.

Job Responsibilities. The Program Manager will be responsible for:

- Identifying and developing programming to meet the needs of underserved populations within the HIV/AIDS community of Santa Clara County.
- Collaborating with other agencies to establish and maintain memorandums of understanding (MOUs)
- Hiring, training, and supervision of a half-time Volunteer Coordinator
- Creating an office dedicated to out-stationed agencies with related infrastructure
- Complying with 100% of the Santa Clara County contract reporting requirements.
- Planning and encouraging involvement of clients in community forums, meetings, and surveys.
- Budget monitoring, strategic planning, developing and managing interagency relationships and similar administrative functions.

Qualifications. The successful candidate will bring the following:

- Three to five years of relevant HIV/AIDS experience, and college degree or equivalent managerial experience;
- Demonstrated commitment and leadership skills in health services
- Demonstrated ability to think strategically and creatively
- Proven ability to convene, organize, and sustain partnerships with other agencies
- Proven ability to move a project from conception to realization
- Excellent writing, and communication skills
- Ability and desire to work in a small, collegial, fluid organization.

How To Apply. Submit a letter of interest addressing the qualifications, three references, and resume to:

Charles L. Evans
Positive Resources of SCC
55 Glistening Court
Milpitas, CA 95035-4345
charles@evansgroup.net (e-mail)

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. No phone calls, please. Positive Resources strongly encourages women, HIV+ persons, persons of color, those that are bilingual, and persons with disabilities to apply.

Revised May 22, 2002

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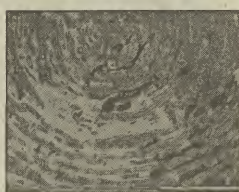
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Serial killer, cannibal, movie star?
Filmmaker David Jacobson's complex
portrait of the horrible Jeffrey 'Dahmer.'
page 32

'Stan and deliver
SF Mime Troupe does 'Mr.
Smith Goes to Obscuristan.'
page 33



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page 39



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 28 • 11 July 2002

Shhhh!

**Silent Film Festival
2002 plays the
Castro Theatre** by Gary Morris

As generations pass, older art forms become less appreciated — indeed, less known. Someday (soon, one hopes), even the names Tom Cruise and Gwyneth Paltrow will be greeted with a puzzled "Who?" by the multitudes who have moved on to new things. What's surprising then, and surely heartening, is that an event like the Silent Film Festival, usually a one-day venue, has expanded to two days due to popular demand, July 13-14 at the Castro Theatre.

One of the ironies of this fest is how little dated some of the films seem. Harold Lloyd, rightly ranked with Keaton and Chaplin as titans of silent comedy, weighs in with *Girl Shy* (1924). Lloyd is in some ways a curiosity. He looks like a classic nerd, but under those winsome smiles and hornrim glasses was an athlete and stuntman of exceptional ability. *Girl Shy* is hilariously droll in depicting Lloyd as a horny but timid writer (*The Secret of Making Love*) whose rich fantasy life is wittily visualized in scenes where he captures the heart of a "vampire" (vamp) through "indifference," and uses "caveman methods" on a flapper.

Lloyd's character is beautifully drawn

page 34 ►

Silent comedy genius
Harold Lloyd in
Girl Shy (1924)



Harold Lloyd Trust

Mr. Spectacular

Meet musical theater legend Jerry Herman

by Gregg Shapiro

It should come as no surprise that Jerry Herman, the musical theater composer who gave us some of our most memorable and strongest female characters (Mame Dennis in *Mame*, Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly!*), is an openly gay man. Gay men know their divas inside and out, and Herman created unforgettable songs for two of the most divine divas. He also gave voice to two of the most memorable gay characters in musical theater, Georges and Albin in *La Cage Aux Folles*.

For more than 40 years, Herman has been a major force in the Broadway musical, and with the concept album for his new musical *Miss Spectacular* (DRG Records), he can add "simple girl" Sarah Jane Hotchkiss to his list of memorable divas. More complex than you might imagine, Sarah Jane's quest for fame leads her to Las Vegas, where she competes for the title Miss Spectacular, the spokesperson for the Hotel Spectacular. The

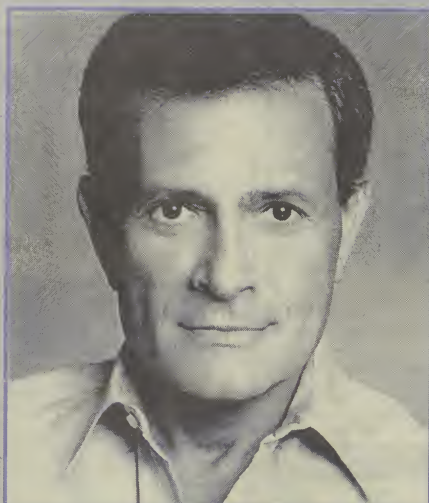
larger-than-life characters in the show include the hotel's lounge singer (Steve Lawrence, who sings the Rat-Pack song "Las Vegas"); Sarah Jane's hometown love interest Charlie (Michael Feinstein and Davis Gaines take turns playing Charlie, with Feinstein singing "Ziegfeld Girl" and Gaines doing "My Great Dream"); and Sarah Jane herself, a woman prone to production number fantasies (Debbie Gravitte in the title song and "Miss What's Her Name"). Other performers include Karen Morrow, Christine Baranski, and Faith Prince.

Miss Spectacular will have many fans eagerly awaiting a full production. I recently spoke to Herman about musical productions past, present and future.

Gregg Shapiro: There's talk of television productions of *Mame* with Cher in the title role, and Bette Midler as Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly!*

Jerry Herman: I'm absolutely crazy about the idea. I think Cher will make a superb Mame. She's really a ter-

page 43 ►



Mark Raboy

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

by Roberto Friedman
and Tony Mezzo-Soprano

A big gangster's kiss on both cheeks from those capering capos at the clubhouse of "the Gay Mafia!" That's what washed-up Hollywood superagent Michael Ovitz called the Men Who Done Him Wrong (including powergay David Geffen) in his astonishing crybaby turn in *Vanity Fair* this month. We love it when bigots just come out and say what they're really thinking, because they're so fake when they're being pious! Like classic Broadway composer Richard Rodgers, whose oeuvre is being celebrated so this year, calling his creative partner Lorenz Hart a "drunken little fag." Ironic, isn't it, that Rodgers was the guy who wrote the song, "You've Got to Be Carefully Taught" [to hate] in *South Pacific*.

The pride of the SF Chronicle should be swimming with the fishes after its "coverage" of the Frameline Fest this year: There was one (1) feature about the gay

film fest, conveniently dumped into its little-read Saturday edition. Meantime, there were plenty of great movies to see, if you knew where to look. The Audience Award for Best Feature was given to Sherman Alexie's *The Business of Fancydancing*, which will get a commercial run in August. For Best Documentary, Frameline audiences chose Dee Mosbacher's *Radical Harmonies*; for Best Short, Geoffrey Haley's *The Parlor*. Stu & Dave's Excellent Documentary Award went to Annie Goldson and Peter Wells' *Georgie Girl*, a portrait of New Zealand Parliament member Georgina Beyer, the first transgendered person elected to na-



Transgender Kiwi Parliament member Georgina Beyer

tional office anywhere. Milford Thomas' silent film *Claire* got a Special Jury Mention for its unique charms. Levi's First Feature Award went to Maja Weiss' *Guardian of the Frontier* — the buzz was it's sort of a lesbian, Slovenian *Deliverance*.



2Xist model shows the fall line at Macy's Union Square fashion show.

Brief fling

It's a gay no-brainer: Who would you expect to show up for the 2Xist underwear fashion show at Macy's, a briefs 'n' baskets fest if ever there was one, except a full house of queens (including a BAR photographer) with eyes glued to the goods on display on the runway? These are the undies which were advertised in the daily papers with a photo of a brawny male model standing in the window in his underpants. The shades are drawn — but only down as far as his midriff. He's peering out at the street from behind the blinds, peekaboo, with a quizzical look on his face like he's thinking, "As soon as those cops move on, I'll go down to the park and make my rent!"

Anyway, from the roll of photos we saw, there was plenty to objectify at the underpants show. After they did the runway thang, the models stood around and posed on pedestals in the underwear department as if they were the living, breathing embodi-

ments of mannequins. We love that. According to reports, some were having a good time, and some weren't. Some were gay, and some weren't. Connect the dots.

Banjos over Castro

At first, we were trying our mightiest to withhold judgment when we heard that the Nasser family, who own the Castro Theatre, would present the 80th anniversary of their landmark movie palace this month — and would be producing and publicizing it themselves. But now the press release with the lineup has arrived, and rather than carp on as we always do, we thought we'd just repeat, verbatim, some choice bits, and let them speak for themselves:

"The live entertainers will include San Francisco's own Banjo Band, which has been delighting fans throughout the Bay Area for more than 30 years at civic ceremonies and dedications... accomplished plectrum banjo player Dave Marty has played at the Red

Garter cruise-line tours for 15 years... and David Hudnut on the saw, one of only a handful of saw players in the country."

"Vocalist Jack Shneider, one of the few remaining artists who have performed during the movie-vaudeville era... Jack will try to get the audience into it and sing along during his performance."

We count our lucky stars that Anita Monga is still programming the movies on the Castro calendar. The live banjo festivities July 18 begin at 7 p.m., the movie at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8.

Now here's a more happening kind of line-up: *Vive la World! 2002*, a festival of world music from Algeria, Mali, Cuba, France and Siberia, will rock the Frost Amphitheater at Stanford on Bastille Day, July 14. Performers include Huun-Huur-Tu, those wild throat-singers from Tuva; the "grandmother of Algerian rai music," Cheikha Remitti; Afro-electric Issa Bagayogo from Mali; and P18, a photogénique



Tom Darnal of P18

Franco-Cuban hip hop band. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. for picnicking, show starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets (\$30 lawn, \$35 chair), (650) 725-ARTS.

Baby wipes

Rumors that Falcon models have been enlisted to appear on stage at the upcoming *Help Is On the Way VIII* on Monday, July 29 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre are confirmed completely true. As of now, three feisty Falcons, Jack Ryan, Jason Tyler and Josh Weston, will be performing with gay icon Bruce Vilanch. Since the fundraiser for Richmond Ermet AIDS Foundation is a tribute to songwriting great Johnny Mercer, Vilanch will warble Mercer's chestnut "You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby" to the trio of tanned, topless torsos. Can you say eye candy?

Also appearing that night will be actress Sally Struthers, gay poet/songwriter Rod McKuen, and singer Margaret Whiting, daughter of songwriting great Richard Whiting ("The Good Ship Lollypop"). She's married to former porn star and now actor/producer Jack Wrangler, who's said to be accompanying her to the event. Tickets are going fast, call (415) 273-1620 or visit www.helpisontheway.org.

Falling Waters

Department of embarrassing celebrity sightings: Filmmaker and gay icon John Waters was spotted taking a tumble off his bicycle right in the middle of Commercial Street, the main drag of Provincetown, in High Season. Perhaps he had been antequing, because he was trying to hold a glass bowl or something in a bag, and steer the bike at the same time, hence the spill. Everyone pretended not to notice. ▼

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THEATRE

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Daisy Eagan knows how to 'Be Aggressive'

by Richard Dodds

Those who regularly watch the Tony Awards probably remember that moment when little Daisy Eagan erupted into tears after becoming the youngest actress to win a Tony. She was 11 years old when Audrey Hepburn read out Eagan's name, and the ensuing tears were as bittersweet as they were joyful.

Eagan won the award in 1991 for *The Secret Garden* for her portrayal of an English girl who must come to terms with the death of her parents. Sadly, during the musical's run, Eagan found out her own mother was gravely ill with cancer.

Now Eagan finds herself playing another character dealing with the death of her mother. "I'm certainly no stranger to that plot line," Eagan said from Palo Alto, where she is in rehearsals for *Be Aggressive*. TheatreWorks is presenting Annie Weisman's dark comedy, which had its premiere last year at the La Jolla Playhouse.

Eagan was also in that production, but in a different role. This time she's playing the central character, a Southern California girl who finds comfort in cheerleading after her mother's death. Escaping from the demands of family and the blandness of her surroundings, she and a friend head off to North Carolina to study cheerleading with "Bible-belt intensity."

Eagan, reflecting on the two roles that bookend her young career, said, "They're both characters who don't deal with what has happened, and then events in their lives let them deal with their past. I think I went through kind of the same process. It's interesting because I went from an ultimate high to an ultimate low, from winning a Tony Award to losing my mom. It took me a while to realize I did need to deal with stuff."

It took several years for that realization to set in, leading to a three-year hiatus from acting in her late teens. Now 22 and fully committed to a career as an actor, Eagan has had to struggle to convince agents and directors that she's now a grown woman ready for dramatic roles.

Her highest profile appearance since *The Secret Garden* wasn't in a role at all, but as herself in the reality series *The It Factor*. Shown on Bravo, the series followed a group of struggling New York actors as they made the rounds, were often treated badly, and commiserated with friends and family.

It may be reality, but it's a reality that has been edited to serve an agenda, Eagan said. "They decided that they wanted me to be the depressed ex-child star. I've learned a lot from it. It's not just about acting, but also about having a public persona. And you want to be in control of what people hear you say."

But one thing *The It Factor* got right, Eagan confirmed, was its ability to depict the ego-bruising experience of starting out on an acting career (or, in the case of Eagan, resuming one).

"It's really difficult to get up and put yourself out there and let



Tony Award-winner Daisy Eagan in TheatreWorks' *Be Aggressive*.

other people judge you," Eagan said. "That's sort of what careers are based on, on how other people see us. I would say that musical theater auditions for me are kind of like being in an abusive relationship."

Eagan said she no longer takes rejection at an audition as personally as she first did. "There's no way you could keep going if you did that every time. I also have a fiancé who's extremely supportive, and if I come home from a horrible audition, I know he'll still love me and support me and think that I'm talented, and that's important."

The marriage proposal came last year in Florida, while Eagan found herself increasingly in disharmony with the play she was in. It began with an enticing offer to appear, without an audition, with Tony Randall, Paxton Whitehead, and Harry Groener at the prestigious Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami.

"It's a funny play, I guess," Eagan said of Ray Cooney's *Caught in the Net*, a sequel to the sex farce *Run for Your Wife*. While Eagan described the chance to work with three veteran actors as "awesome," she found the play creakily chauvinistic. "It's not really my cup of tea," she said.

And what is her cup of tea? "I love being able to play a character who's very funny and also very poignant, and who goes through a journey," she said. "I've been getting away from musical theater because I've realized it's not what really appeals to me. I like things that say something important."

Still, she'll be heading to LA for pilot season at the networks. "I'm getting my teeth fixed because I know you have to look a certain way," Eagan said. "There comes a point when you just have to resign yourself to things like that."

Be Aggressive begins performances July 17 at the Lucie Stern Theatre in Palo Alto. Call (650) 903-6000.

Rhino nets Fisher

Theatre Rhino recently announced the six plays making up its 25th season. Now comes a bit of interesting news: John Fisher will join Doug Holsclaw, the current artistic director, as co-directors of the long-running gay and lesbian theater.

Fisher came on the scene in the 1990s as a theatrically swashbuckling gay wunderkind. *The Joy of Gay Sex*, *Medea*, *The Musical*, and *Titus!* are several of the projects Fisher both wrote and directed. More recently, he wrote and directed *Barebacking: A Sex Panic Comedy* at Theatre Rhino.

The 2002-03 season will include another Fisher original. *Amnesia*, opening in January, is a comedy about a bitchy music critic who forgets that he's gay. It one of six original works that make up the Rhino season.

Short cuts

Christopher Durang and Wendy Wasserstein are the marquee names in *Summer Shorts - Days and Nights*, but the bill also includes world premieres by five local gay playwrights: Tim A. Taylor, Mike Ward, Tom W. Kelly, Daniel Vojir, and Russ Duffy.

The first of the Durang plays is *Women in a Playground*, in which two mothers debate their radically different views of child-rearing. The second is *Phyllis & Xenobia*, about two sisters who are just not right. Durang and Wasserstein collaborated on a satirical version of *Medea*.

Mike Ward is directing the Isis Arts Collective production at Exit Stage Left. *Summer Shorts* runs July 12-Aug. 17. Call 863-7707. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at BARstage@aol.com.

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Falling for the wrong sort

Two coming attractions on July screens

by David Lamble

About halfway through *Lovely and Amazing*, Nicole Holofcener's inventive but exasperating new comedy about the travails of two sisters coping with troubling traits picked up from a caring but extremely neurotic mother, the older sister (Catherine Keener) finally finds a male partner who likes her for who she is. The only problem is that the guy, as portrayed by Jake Gyllenhaal with the poufy hair and wide-eyed nonchalance of a young Robert Downey Jr., is 17 and her boss at a 24-hour photo-

mat. Keener is faced with shacking up with Gyllenhaal at the expense of losing her daughter and incurring the wrath of her husband and Gyllenhaal's mom, a woman of her own age with a similar taste in housecoats. That the audience is inclined to think that this may be the most adult thing she's done in the movie up to that point is a sign of just how desperate life for Keener's character has become.

Keener's sister, British newcomer Emily Mortimer, is even more at sea. Struggling to establish an acting career with the help of an agent who considers her a mental case, Mortimer's ingenue finds all of her insecurities about her looks confirmed in the audition from Hell, a so-called "chem-

istry read," in which she's judged based on her sexual heat with a star stud, Dermot Mulroney. That she loses the part but gets Mulroney for a trophy fuck (with possible options) leaves the young woman, described by her clueless mother, Brenda Blethyn, as "lovely and amazing," reeling. In the film's truly amazing moment, she asks Mulroney, after sex, to rate her body parts, and he does.

In her 1996 comedy *Walking and Talking*, Holofcener diverted us with the unraveling friendship between two women (Keener and Anne Heche), which acquired a male body count, that of a nerdy video-clerk winningly imagined by Kevin Corrigan, who hears himself dished as "the ugly guy" in a phone message left for Keener by Heche. The scene in which Corrigan confronts Keener about her cruelty, while simultaneously alerting her to the depths to which her friendship with Heche has sunk, is the centerpiece of a truly original feminist comedy.

Walking and Talking felt like it was unfolding in front of us with all the rich possibilities of life's own comedy, while *Lovely and Amazing* feels hobbled by a thesis, that women are disabled by familial flaws. Thus the film fails to soar as it should from the vivid performances of Mulroney, Gyllenhaal, and a remarkable 9-year-old, Raven Goodwin, who gives a vampish élan to her role as Blethyn's adopted black daughter.

Towards the end of the film Keener finds herself wolfing down McDonald's "comfort food" with Goodwin. If Gyllenhaal were still a part of Keener's future at that moment, with all the madness such a coupling could portend, *Lovely and Amazing* would be the comedy of the year. Opens July 19.

Errand boy

The solitary girl at the heart of Majid Majidi's new tragic romance, *Baran*, is forced to forego all feminine images, forced to impersonate a boy in order to keep her Afghan refugee family from starving on the fringes of Iran's underground economy. Majidi deftly depicts Baran's plight from the point of view of a well-intentioned but shiftless Iranian teenager, Lateef (Hossein Abedini, who employs his pop-star handsomeness as camouflage for a remarkable screen transformation.)

Upset that he's losing his relatively cushy job as an errand boy and short-order cook to Rahmat (Zahra Bahrami), Lateef seeks to sabotage this "son" of an injured Afghan construction worker with a series of cruel pranks, until he discovers that Rahmat is actually Baran. Henceforth, nothing in Lateef's life will ever be the same.

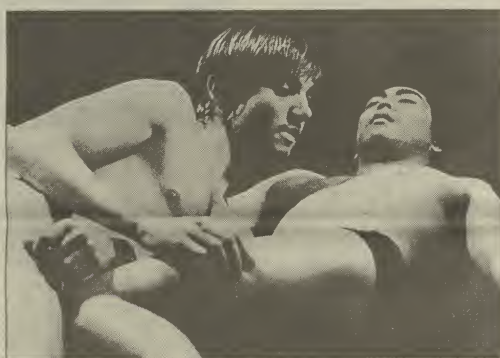
Baran means *Rain*, and Majidi employs watery images to inform Lateef's transformation from Baran's tormentor to her guardian angel. (In Majidi's *The Children of*



Jake Gyllenhaal and Catherine Keener in *Lovely and Amazing*: desperate.

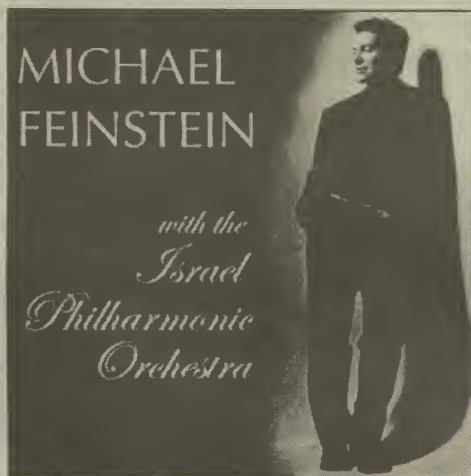
Heaven, a precious sneaker falling into a storm sewer unites a brother and sister.) Since the Islamic regime bars any realistic rendering of an erotic relationship between men and women, Lateef's self-sacrificing, altruistic crush on Baran stands in for all the passion boiling under the surface of this once vibrantly secular society. A young girl, posing as a young boy, covertly brushes out her long hair

as a young man secretly gazes on, through the prism of a carpet hung over the entrance to a shabby kitchen, like a door opening to a possibly brighter future. The young man's gaze ironically fuels not lust, but an unexpected depth of empathy and true charity. With its hauntingly poetic rhythms, *Baran* best captures the true tragedy underlying the Afghan crisis. Opens July 19. ▼



Jeremy Renner and Dion Basco in *Dahmer*: not just for Halloween.

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'Dahmer' for dummies

by Brandon Judell

One of the best films of the year happens to be one you think you don't want to see. Get over it. *Dahmer*, opening at the Lumiere Friday, July 12, is nothing less than a first-rate, riveting, psychologically complex, dramatically intense masterwork, by a filmmaker whose youth belies his expertise. Yes, it's about that Dahmer. Jeffrey, the serial killer. The cannibal.

But David Jacobson understands we bear the horror behind the tale with us to our theater seats. He doesn't have to depict the blood and guts, so this film is about 95% gore-free. But like *In Cold Blood*, your stomach stays in knots. *Dahmer*, in a weird, *Psycho*-like way, is a kinky thriller.

The film is also sexy in parts. Just don't tell anyone you respect you're turned on.

Additionally, *Dahmer* contains the finest portrayal of the gay bar scene as observed by someone who doesn't quite fit in. Yes, this work deems to explain its titular character and the demise of his morality, but it never forgives

him, nor does it ask you to.

We first meet Jeffrey (Jeremy Renner) when he's working in a chocolate factory. Bye, bye, sweet tooth. From there, the film jumps back and forth in time, to his teenhood and first killing, to the non-fatal drugging of his sex partners, to his crazed serial murders, and back again. We meet his severe father (Bruce Davison), his kindly grandmother ("You're going to have to calm down, Grandma!"), the headless mannequin in his closet, and the one man who tried to love him (Artel Kayaru). We encounter the young Asian who almost escapes and the young sports star who, unknowing, sends Jeffrey down the road to infamy. Then there's the skeleton Jeffrey decorates his living room with — and not just for Halloween.

But putting the subject matter aside, the structure of the screenplay, the acting, the direction, the editing and the cinematography are all letter-perfect. This is a work of art. As for Renner, who appears on WB's *Angel*, if this *Boys Do Cry* epic doesn't turn him into this year's Hillary Swank, there's no celluloid god reigning in the Hollywood heavens. ▼

THEATRE & FILM

Sand trap

SF Mime Troupe goes to Obscuristan

by Richard Dodds

Every summer the San Francisco Mime Troupe creates a new play inspired by the events of the previous year. This has been going on for 41 years, and while the topics have varied widely, the message is constant.

Capitalistic greed makes the world go 'round, with the government and corporations in cahoots to make sure the haves never be-

come the have-nots, or vice-versa. The past year has been historically rich in the kind of news stories that feed the Mime Troupe, so it's a little disappointing that the results are not one of group's stronger efforts.

Mr. Smith Goes to Obscuristan was unveiled on the Fourth of July in Dolores Park, and there were signs that the production had not yet gelled. Awkward stage waits and erratic sound were among the problems, but those will surely

find remedy as the show continues through area parks this summer.

It is the script (by Josh Kornbluth, Michael Gene Sullivan, and members of the Troupe) that isn't as sharp as it has been in recent productions, and the staging by Sullivan and Keiko Shimosato strains to pull it into focus. The sprawling audience on opening afternoon responded appreciatively to the intentionally unsubtle theatrics, communally united in their appreciation of some solid Bush-bashing (despite a heckler who suggested loudly that we shove the First Amendment up our asses).

Last year, in *1600 Transylvania Avenue*, the Mime Troupe depicted President Bush as the stooge of powerful corporations. If polls show that the events following Sept. 11 have given Bush a new mantle of respect, not a trace of it was on view in Dolores Park. As enthusiastically played by Amos Glick, President Bush is still a dimwitted puppet pushed around by Dick Cheney and his own mother. It's great to have Ed Holmes back as Cheney, a part he first played with uncanny verisimilitude last year, and this year he also shows up as a monstrous Barbara Bush.

Plunder pit

Playing off our country's sudden interest in Afghanistan, the Mime Troupe gives us Obscuris-



Intentionally unsubtle: *Mr. Smith Goes to Obscuristan*, now in the parks.

tan, a desert country so impoverished that it even has to import sand. Back in the US, the Administration decides to reaffirm its noble vision by exporting democracy to a country with nothing for the country to plunder.

But when oil is discovered in Obscuristan, American interests are aroused, and to make sure the right person is elected president over there, a Dudley Do-Right fireman-hero from New York is sent to Obscuristan to monitor the elections. In the tradition of *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, this new Mr. Smith (played with bright-eyed earnestness by Michael Gene Sullivan) turns the tables on his scheming patrons.

Bruce Barthol and Jason Sherbundy have provided an eclectic score that ranges from Gilbert and Sullivan-style patter songs to Les Miz-like noble anthems. Velina

Brown, as a corrupted ambassador, makes the biggest musical impact with her "Avenger of the Oppressed" aria.

Martha Stewart, Enron, MCI, and Arthur Andersen could all have been prime targets for the Mime Troupe, but they surprisingly go unmentioned, even as Florida election jokes are reinvoked. Topical theater isn't easy, because freshness is its main commodity, and that gets harder to come by in a DSL-connected world. Still, the Mime Troupe is better than most at this, and a visit to Obscuristan is 90 minutes well spent. ▼

Mr. Smith Goes to Obscuristan will tour area parks through the summer. Go to www.sfmt.org for a complete schedule, or call 285-1717.



Errol Flynn in 1935, during his dashing, high-life, matinee-idol days.

In like Flynn

'Cuban Story' out on DVD

by Matthew Kennedy

By the mid-1950s, Errol Flynn was enjoying the low high-life of a bloated alcoholic and former matinee idol. His extended lost weekend was spent in Cuba, then a decadent playground for American tourists too dazzled by the glittering casinos to notice revolution brewing in the dark, poor villages beyond Havana.

On one of Flynn's visits, he and movie producer Victor Pahlen were witness to Fidel Castro's overthrow of army sergeant Fulgencio Batista's regime. So Flynn and Pahlen set about capturing what they could on camera, and the results are fairly impressive. Neither of them would ever be mistaken for Joris Ivens or Robert Flaherty, but there is rough and raw footage of street ruckuses and teeming soldiers pressing on to Havana demanding a new government. The two don't blink at capturing the dying and the dead, and one execution may compel you to look away. What cheapens the enterprise is Flynn's sometimes patronizing and nearly incoherent commentary.

If ever there were an oddity among the greatly expanding DVD offerings in the world, it is *Cuban Story*. The Cuban Revolution as seen through the jaundiced eyes of Errol Flynn should give anyone pause. There is no

disputing the power or apparent authenticity of the images captured, but Flynn's propaganda reeks as much as his liquor-ridden breath. This is no place to get a balanced primer in Cuban history. Too bad the DVD's distributor, All Day Entertainment, didn't fill in the gaps with some relevant journalism in their notes. DVD producer David Kalat provides a bit of background, including mention of the USA's early endorsement of Castro, but those wanting to learn more about Cuba will have to look elsewhere.

Kalat opts for a more extensive retelling of Flynn's debauchery, and the pitiful summary of his life and career. His story is morbidly interesting: after making the ex-crackable *Cuban Rebel Girls*, Flynn died at age 50 in October 1959, less than one year after the Communist Fidelistas took control of Cuba.

Clocking in at 50 minutes, this is one slim volume. A brief introduction by daughter Kyra Pahlen contributes very little to our understanding. But those fascinated by the epic tragedies of Cuba and/or the wonderful, horrible life of Errol Flynn will want to take a look. There is no denying that this is an odd moment captured forever, the curious intersection of a revolution and a dissipated Hollywood has-been.

Cuban Story: 50 minutes, black-and-white, 1959. Available at www.alldayentertainment.com. ▼

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Always ready for her close-up

The career of actress/icon Gloria Swanson

by Tavo Amador

Because she was immortalized as the mad Norma Desmond in Billy Wilder's brilliant *Sunset Boulevard* (1950), Gloria Swanson is one of the rare silent-screen stars whose name still registers with current audiences. In reality, she was not at all like the demented Miss Desmond, and her failure to forge a sustained career in talkies is lamentable, for she was an actress with considerable presence. Tiny and not classically beautiful, her distinctive looks stood out in an era that idealized pastel prettiness. A rare chance to view one of her early successes presents itself on Saturday, July 13, when the Castro Theatre screens *Male and Female* (1919) as part of the two-day Silent Film Festival.

She was born in 1898. Her father was a civilian working for the military, and she grew up on army camps. She studied singing, and around 1915 was working as a salesgirl in Chicago when an aunt brought her to Essanay Studios, and she landed bit parts. She had small roles in Wallace Beery films, and they married in 1916. She made several Mack Sennett bathing-beauty shorts, but feared becoming another Mabel Normand ("I didn't want to be a second anybody") and left Sennett, signing with Triangle.

Stardom followed, in films like *Society for Sale*, *Her Decision*, and *Wife or Country*. After Triangle's bankruptcy, she joined Cecil B. DeMille at Paramount. Together, they made six hugely successful films, remembered as much for their sets and her costumes as for their "sophisticated" plots. Usually, she was wronged, learned that riches did not buy happiness, but found redemption in the end. Titles like *Don't Change Your Husband* and *For Better For Worse*

(1919) tell all. That same year, she starred in *Male and Female*, an adaptation of J. M. Barrie's *The Admirable Crichton*, about shipwrecked aristocrats learning that their natural leader is the butler. DeMille jazzed things up with a Biblical flashback.

In 1920, she asked, *Why Change Your Wife?*, then had *Something To Think About* (widowhood, an abusive father, and marriage to a disabled man). Her last for DeMille was *The Affairs of Anatole*. Then she enjoyed *The Great Moment* as an English socialite, but was *Under the Lash* as a housewife with a bullying husband (1921). She warned *Don't Tell Everything*, recognized her *Husband's Trademark*, went *Beyond the Rocks* with Rudolph Valentino, occupied *Her Gilded Cage*, and was *The Impossible Mrs. Bellew*, all 1922. In 1923, she was *My American Wife*, one of the *Prodigal Daughters*, and *Bluebeard's Eighth Wife*.

Star power

Swanson was at the height of her fame. Paramount signed Polish star Pola Negri, and their supposed feud generated much publicity, but Swanson's position was unassailable. She lived extravagantly: "I will be every inch... the star! Everybody from the studio gateman to the highest executive will know it." Paramount head Adolph Zukor called her "temperamental," but gave her a new contract, four pictures a year for three years, with story approval and the right to film in New York.

Her first under those terms was *Zaza*. Then she played a French gamine in *The Humming Bird*, faced *A Society Scandal*, was *Manhandled*, revealed *Her Love Story*, and worked for the *Wages of Virtue* to support her French Foreign Legionnaire lover. In 1925, she went to France for *Madame Sans-Gene*, based on Sardou's play

about Napoleon's laundrywoman. She returned to America with the *Legion D'Honneur* award and a new husband, the Marquis de la Falaise de la Coudraye.

Thousands of fans cheered her in New York and Hollywood. Her billing at Broadway's Rivoli Theatre was the biggest ever seen. She visited *The Coast of Folly*, was *Stage Struck* and an *Untamed Lady*, then displayed *Fine Manners*. Paramount offered a new contract at a staggering \$18,000 per week, but she refused, moving to UA to produce her own pictures. Her backer was Joseph P. Kennedy, father of the future President, and her lover for many years. Her salary was reportedly \$20,000 per week.

She produced *The Loves of Sunya*, but it did not do as well as expected. In 1928, she was *Queen Kelly*, about a schoolgirl having an affair with a Prince-Consort, earning the wrath of his Queen. Erich von Stroheim directed, extravagantly, spending \$600,000 without finishing the movie. She fired him, and when no one else would invest, spent \$200,000 of her own money to complete it, although it was never shown commercially in America. (Wilder used scenes from it in *Boulevard*.) She recovered with two smashes: a well-received *Sadie Thompson* (1927) and *The Trespasser* (1929), earning Oscar nominations for Best Actress. The latter was her first talkie, and she sang, "Love, Your Magic Spell Is Everywhere" to considerable acclaim.

She followed with weak comedies: *What a Widow* (1930), *Indiscreet*, *Tonight or Never* (both 1931), and *Perfect Understanding* (1933). None of these did well. MGM was interested, but Swan-



Gloria Swanson in 1933: "I will be every inch... the star!"

son clashed with Irving Thalberg, and nothing came of it. At Fox, she found *Music in the Air* (1934), from a Kern-Hammerstein operetta. Columbia announced various projects, but she did not make another film until 1941's *The Farmer Takes a Wife*, which disappeared quickly. Nine years later, Wilder offered *Boulevard*.

She was not his first choice. Norma Shearer rejected it, as did Mae West ("No one would believe me as a 'has-been.'") Wilder considered Mary Pickford, but her drinking and script demands killed her chances. George Cukor suggested Swanson, and anyone else now seems unimaginable. Her reviews were spectacular, but she lost the Best Actress Oscar to Judy Holiday in *Born Yesterday*, although her performance was the

most talked-about of the year. In its wake, she starred on Broadway in *The Twentieth Century*, but refused to play a mother for a film version of Frances Parkinson Keyes' *Dinner at Antoine's*. (In real life, she had a grandchild.) Instead, she did a bad comedy, 1952's *Three for Bedroom C*, and was Agrippina in the Italian *Mio Figlio Nerone* (1956).

Rejecting more Norma Desmond-like roles, she worked on television, toured in *Butterflies Are Free* (1970-71), and played herself in *Airport 75*. Her autobiography, *Swanson By Swanson*, was a bestseller, and in 1970, Larry Carr made her one of the *Four Fabulous Faces* in his book. The others were Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, and Marlene Dietrich. She died in 1983. ▼

Silent Film Fest

◀ Arts cover

in these satirical sequences and in more subtle moments, as when he dances by himself holding a lamp-post, unaware he's being watched. The payoff comes in the film's final sequence, a bravura chase through the city in which he leaps on and off virtually every known mode of transportation in an attempt to stop the marriage of the woman he loves. This scene prefigures *The Graduate* as well as many a Jackie Chan *tour de force*, but Lloyd did it much earlier, and better. Lloyd's daughter Gloria, granddaughter Suzanne, and author Jeffrey Vance (*Harold Lloyd*, *Master Comedian*) will be in attendance, along with Chris Elliott at the Mighty Wurlitzer.

Another very appealing film in the fest is Lois Weber's *The Blot* (1924). Weber was an anomaly, a woman writer-director of hugely successful topical films for Universal Studios. She also frequently got into trouble for her subject matter; few auteurs of the time were as forceful as she in dealing with birth control or business scandals. *The Blot* has all the elements of standard melodrama—a class-conflict romance, poverty, three men in love with the same woman. But Weber's sure hand waves away the clichés before they happen. Louis Calhern (familiar later in *The Asphalt Jungle*, as Marilyn Monroe's suicidal sugar daddy) excels as the rich college boy whose exposure to the reality of lower-class lives humanizes



Claire Windsor and Louis Calhern in *The Blot* (1921)

him. Weber's subtle methods are wonderfully evident in the sequence of Mrs. Griggs, respectable but driven to a desperate act, stealing a chicken from her neighbor. Accompanying the film will be pianist Michael Mortilla.

Three men and a baby

William Wyler's *Hell's Heroes* (1930) also has a modern feel. This was the third version of the popular story made earlier and then remade by John Ford as *Three Godfathers*, about three hard-bitten outlaws who discover a baby in the desert and promise its dying mother that they'll save it. Wyler is most familiar to us for his Bette Davis vehicles and *The Best Years of Our Lives*, but here he is at his most raw. Shot in Califor-

nia's Mojave Desert and Panamint Valley, the film has a claustrophobic realism that makes it challenging to watch, as the desert closes in on each of the characters, inexorably. Charles Bickford shows his acting chops as the head outlaw, and his transformation from cocky bastard to a pathetic mess, barely recognizable as a human being, is powerful indeed. Terence Stamp, who worked with Wyler on *The Collector*, will make a special appearance, as will Dennis James at the Mighty Wurlitzer.

Of course, not all the films in the series have the modern touch. The Baby Peggy vehicle *Captain January* is in every way characteristic of the sentimental melodramas of the period. This hoary tale

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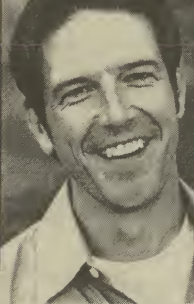
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Beautiful depths

Four great baritones out on disc

by Jason Serinus

Schubert: Der Liedler – Robert Holl, Rudolf Jansen (Challenge Classics)

The great English song accompanist Graham Johnson once said that of all the art-song interpreters now before the public, bass-baritone Robert Holl is the “most spiritual” of the lot. This disc offers proof of Johnson’s assessment.



Recorded in 1998, but first released in the US in 2002, this CD features the Rotterdam-born Holl and prized accompanist Rudolf

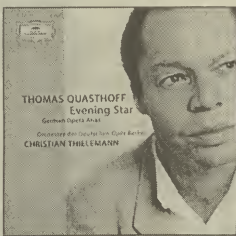
Jansen performing a generous 74 minutes of song by Franz Schubert. While some, including “Der Jungling und der Tod” and “An die Musik,” are frequently performed, others, including the 17-minute “Der Liedler” and 14-minute “Viola,” are seldom encountered.

How Holl sounded at the start of his career, when he won first prize at the international singing contest in Hertogenbosch in 1971, or in 1990, when the Austrian government awarded him the honorary title of Wiener Kammer-sänger, I do not know. But the voice as of 1998 was beautifully sonorous, with a resonance and depth that bring to mind the great voice of his teacher Hans Hotter. Both men share a wobble in certain parts of the range that is easily overlooked in Holl’s case because of the beauty and depth of the voice.

Like Gerard Souzay, Holl displays a sensitivity, sweetness, and willingness to dive deeply into the essence of a song that is too rarely encountered. Nothing is rushed, self-conscious or forced; every nuance and ritard seems dictated

by the musical essence of the lied at hand. In striking contrast to rising baritone Randall Scarlatta, whose recent Berkeley recital accompanied by Richard Goode suggested that he has yet to grasp the vastness of Schubert’s vision, Holl sings as though these songs arise from the center of his being.

Even without translations, this disc takes one on a profound inward journey. Holl’s singing is so deep that, in cases of mediocre poetry, ignorance adds to the bliss. Highly recommended.



Evening Star: German Opera Arias – Thomas Quasthoff; Wagner – Bryn Terfel (DG)

If you’ve attended one of 43-year-old German bass-baritone Quasthoff’s Bay Area appearances, you know the beauty of his voice and the extent of his interpretive mastery. His 37-year-old Welsh bass-baritone contemporary Bryn Terfel, who recently presented a Cal Performances recital, possesses a larger voice: round, powerful, luscious, and capable of darker but equally seductive sounds.

The differences in the way these men use their voices is as great as the physical contrast between the two. Quasthoff, whose mother took the harmful fertility drug Thalidomide, is way under 5 feet and moves awkwardly, while Terfel is a towering bear of a man who seems to have moved beyond his back problems. Terfel tends to rely heavily on word painting, sometimes laying it on too thick; Quasthoff eschews overinterpretation, combining economy of expression with a marvelous mastery of summoning the right tone and energy to express the emotion at hand. Expressed differently, Terfel can seem to color words from the outside, while Quasthoff’s palette seems a natural extension of his inner sensibilities.

In these discs of operatic arias, the contrast between Quasthoff

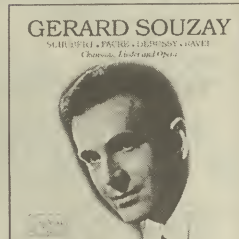


and Terfel becomes apparent in the one selection they share in common, Wolfram’s “Wie Todesahnung Dämmrung deckt die Lande (The Song to the Evening Star)” from Wagner’s *Tannhäuser*. Given ideally transparent and expressive support by conductor Christian Thielemann and the Orchester der Deutschen Oper Berlin, Quasthoff delivers a rapt performance, sounding transported as he prays to the Evening Star to help guide a departed soul on its flight from Earth to Heaven. Terfel, receiving less-than-poetic support from Claudio Abbado and the Berliner Philharmoniker, sounds too occupied with underscoring the meaning of every word to fully embrace the essence of heavenly transcendence. Even though it is Terfel who seems more equipped to meet Wagner’s vocal demands, it is Quasthoff who convinces.

Despite a voice in prime health, Terfel disappoints through most of his recital; the man sounds as though he has yet to find his way into the heart of Wagnerian conflict and passion. Comparisons with his recording of “Die Frist ist um” from *Der Fliegende Holländer* reveal a far more crushing sense of tragedy in the gorgeously-voiced 1937 live performance of Herbert Janssen (with Reiner), and more convincing drama from James Morris (far more satisfyingly conducted by James Levine). And when heard alongside the classic Hans Hotter/Georg Solti recording of Wotan’s “Leb wohl, du kühnes, herliches Kind!” from *Die Walküre*, the Terfel/Abbado partnership seems to merely skim the surface.

Terfel has been quite cautious in adding Wagner to his repertoire; he first sang Wolfram in 1997, and will not tackle the role of Hans Sachs in *Die Meistersinger* before 2003. Given that Janssen’s voice rapidly declined after the Met forced him into heavy Wagnerian roles, and Hotter and Morris were both sounding worn at the time of their respective recordings, Terfel’s reluctance is more than justified. Let us hope that he continues to devote his resources to repertoire more suited to his voice and temperament.

Lest you think that Quasthoff lacks personality, by all means listen to his buoyant interpretations of multiple roles from Lortzing’s *Zar und Zimmermann* and *Der Wildschütz*. Quasthoff, who offers plenty of outspoken character during his recitals, knows how to channel his gifts in service to operatic interpretation. This is a wonderful disc, with singing that will serve as a model for years to come.



Chansons, Lieder and Opera – Gerard Souzay (Pearl)

Born in 1918, baritone Gerard Souzay graced the recital stage for over 40 years. This indispensable disc reissues his first LP recordings from 1950, performances that helped him gain prominence as the premiere interpreter of French chanson of his generation.

Although Souzay appeared in opera, the first selection, a monotone reading of Handel’s aria “Si, tra I ceppi” (Berenice), leaves no question that art song offered him greater opportunities to utilize his many gifts. The next track, Beethoven’s great lied “In questa tomba oscura,” shows him at his best. Filled with light and shadow, the plethora of soft tones perfectly supported by the breath, the degree of subtle dynamic variation and shading, and, most importantly, the singer’s total emotional involvement give life to the plea of the departed soul who begs for peace from within the grave.

Souzay’s sense of total immersion is palpable in his recordings of 10 Fauré chansons (including the four *L’Horizon Chimérique*). Recorded with accompanist Jacqueline Bonneau, these performances are as idiomatically and emotionally perfect as some of the Fauré interpretations by soprano Maggie Teyte, whose career was winding down just as Souzay’s was gaining momentum. ▼

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Summer studpups, and some aren't

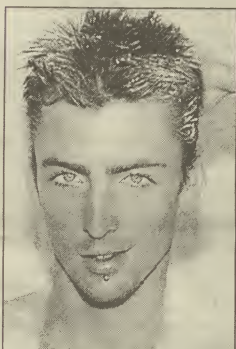
by John F. Karr

Would Reality Porn provide me the fresh thrills that Reality Programming has brought to summertime TV? Well, hope's not the only thing that springs eternal. It's got a buddy in my hard-on. So all systems were on full alert when I received *Who Let the Pups Out*, third in a series from Studpups Video. Visions of sugar pups danced in my head, sweet young things delivered, like crudites, with only minimal preparation. Plus some dip.

Yet it's mostly crudity that you dip into with amateur porn. And while *Pups* has the authenticating features of Real Porn — like the cameraman whose “Roll over, spread your cheeks”



Karnal Knowledge



Marco is one of the pups on display.

provides direction — it also has the standard unwatchability quotient of camerawork that is truly vertigo-inducing. This guy must be on rollerskates. And then there are the performers, who are mostly not pups at all, looking more collegiate than high school. And their solo jerk-offs are mostly perfunctory.

True, there's a 19-year-old Latino who is the only performer to take the time for some actual cockplay, working his dickhead

up his asshole. There's a surprisingly handsome young man with a Prime Time boner, whose exhibitionist beat-off goes beyond the call of duty. And then there's the sudden shock of a husky Marine type who walks on screen and heartily swallows the cock of a sullen blonde, exuberantly providing the 90-minute video's only excursion beyond masturba-

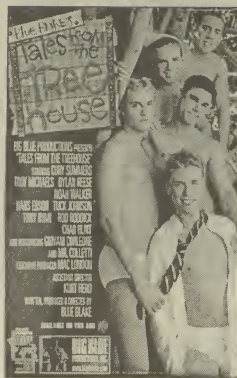
tion. He's a hearty cocksucker, alright, but the sight is intensified because the guys in the preceding scene were so undeniably straight. This trio of frat boys

may be your sole reason for watching the flick. One of them's a lanky blonde who's actually hung, and embarrassed by the way his buds comment on it; another is a tattooed punk whose cock is normal-sized but nonetheless admirably shaped and urgently hard. But the scene is so unerotic you wonder how they're ever gonna cum. They have to look at a girlie mag, and concentrate real hard, blocking out the load of jiz next to them. I actually got impatient, because the scene had been mostly devoid of sexuality throughout. But there's an “I wish I wasn't watching” spell of voyeurism cast by the guys' non-stop nervous joking, the incredibly ungay lingo they apply to their cocks and their actions, and the way they carefully don't interact, while fulfilling the contract of jacking off together. Believe me, it's not as good as I've made it sound. But dudes jacking off together on a dare, seeing who can shoot first — it's marvelously adolescent. And Real.

www.studpups.net; (800) 227-3717

Under the tree

The title *Tales from the Tree House* stirred up images of boyhood fun. But none of the scenes take place in the treehouse, and the boys are way past treehouse age. Instead, Blue Blake's halfheartedly executed video is boilerplate porn: the interloper in the



locker room, the photographer who puts the make on a model, the mechanic doing maintenance on the car owner's son. These scenes are sometimes enlivened by the presence of star Giovanni Corleone, a nutty-colored, well-padded dish who gets to tussle with Tuck Johnson, Chad Hunt and “a Hollywood name” whose identity is protected by having his head framed out of the picture, thus effectively nullifying his presence, despite appreciable assets. I couldn't recognize who it was. It can't be Cameron Crow, because I'm sure he's uncircumcised, and while Hugh Jackman has this hair pattern, he isn't as muscular.

It doesn't much matter, though, as the scenes generally lack inner tension, with sex acts moved through as if items checked off a list. Johnson and Hunt do their dependable thing, and I liked two rangy blondes, Troy Michaels, with his wistful expression and lusty whimpering, and the briefly seen Noah Walker, whose lanky body gives extra leverage to his long cock. The finale cooks for a while, with the star and the two blondes joined by Dylan Reese and Cory Summers. They're a spunky bunch of studpups, even if the action is ultimately abbreviated, as if the school bell had rung, and the frolicsome quartet had to cum and go. ▼

www.blueblake.com

Silent Film Fest

◀ page 34

was remade a few years later with Shirley Temple as the orphan rescued by and then taken from a grizzled lighthouse-keeper, but Baby Peggy has her own distinctive charms. Dressed like a doll, wearing heavy mascara, bow lips, and Bettie Page bangs, she looks more like the midget some critics accused Temple of being than Temple did. Peggy was a megastar making \$1.5 million at age 4 1/2, but, unlike some, she survived her career to become respected Hollywood historian Diana Serra Cary, who will introduce *Captain January*. Jon Mirsalis will provide a live piano score.

Another obvious period piece is DeMille's *Male and Female* (1919), though it has the self-consciously modern “racy” elements the director was noted for. Gloria Swanson plays a spoiled rich girl appalled when her best friend says she's in love with her chauffeur.

But Swanson gets her chance at class degradation when she and a group of rich ninnies are shipwrecked, and her butler, who's in love with her, becomes their king. DeMille is always dicey at best, but there are several worthy aspects of *Male and Female*: Thomas Meighan's solid performance as the butler, Swanson's hauteur, and some very funny Babylonian fantasies with Meighan as a hunky ruler and Swanson practically licking his toes. Watch for Swanson's famous bath scene and her encounter with a real lion. Included is live piano accompaniment by Michael Mortilla.

The fest's international reach is evident in Franz Osten's legendary and little-seen *Shiraz* (1928). This fable uses the backdrop of the building of the Taj Mahal to tell an epic love story of a princess and a lowly architect. The film was shot entirely on location in India, using natural light. The love story is foregrounded to what is practically an



Shiraz: in the shadow of Taj Mahal.

ethnography of India in the 1920s, with richly resonant scenes in the marketplace and even period punishments (death by elephant!) The film will be accompanied by a live tabla and sarode performance by Debopriya Sarkar and Ben Kunin of the Ali Akbar College of Music. ▼

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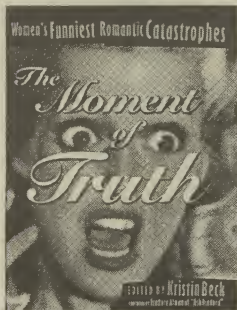
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Close encounters of the worst kind

Moments of truth at home and abroad

by Deborah Peifer

Seal Press seems to have cornered the market in the real-life adventure genre, with three new books that offer tales of women (straight and bent) facing romantic disasters, foreign lands, and recalcitrant vehicles. Each book offers celebration and commiseration, humor, and a sigh or two.

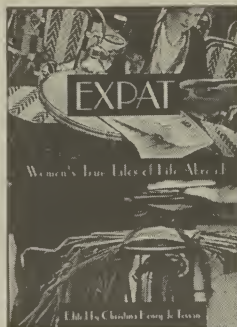


The Moment of Truth: Women's Funniest Romantic Catastrophes (edited by Kristin Beck; Seal,

\$14.95) explores the penultimate moment in a relationship, right before you run screaming into the night, when the realization dawns that this person is *not* the one. I think we've all dated "The Man Who Mistook His Hat for His Date," but Elizabeth Schilling gets lots more laughs of his horrible-ness than I ever could. It is a monument to editor Kristin Beck's persuasiveness that she was able to convince women to share some of these tales in which they come to the shocking realization that their skills in partner-picking need a little work.

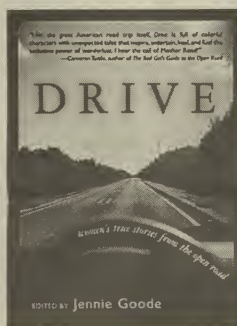
If you've ever considered fleeing home and hearth (and these days, who besides a few Republicans isn't?) to find new worlds and experience new ways of looking at life, *Expat: Women's True Stories of Life Abroad* (edited by Christina Henry de Tessen; Seal, \$16.95) provides useful information and more than a few cautionary tales.

What struck me as I read the



stories was the efforts women made to make the new place home, while trying desperately not to transplant all things American to their new abodes. I was especially moved by the painful loneliness that Tonya Ward Singer tries so hard to assuage with "A Taste of Home."

Book Report



Sometimes, a body just wants to be in motion, and *Drive: Women's True Stories from the Open Road* (edited by Jennie Goode; Seal, \$15.95) provides the tales of some very astute observers who kept their eyes on more than just the road. Whether moving away from something, or toward something else, or just luxuriating in the passage of time and space, these women discover the changes that take place inside when the outside hits the road.



So long, Scarlett

The first grown-up book (as opposed to the first adult book, which came much later) I ever read was my mother's favorite novel, *Gone With the Wind*, Margaret Mitchell's paean to the Old South. Now, at the time that I was reading this book, Freedom Riders were risking their lives, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was sharing his dream in Washington, DC, so I was clear on the fact that Mitchell's South was very different from the South experienced by African Americans, but the book still captured and held my imagination, and I remember the experience of that first reading vividly to this day. Thank goodness that Alice Randall has written a superb corrective for those old and harmful memories, in her very fine and funny parody, *The Wind Done Gone* (Mariner, \$12).

Beginning with what should have been an obvious question, "Where were the mulatto children of Tara?" Randall creates an alternate view of Tara and plantation life, based on the mulatto daughter of Gerald O'Hara, Scarlett's father, and Mammy, the self-abnegating servant of Mitchell's vision. Cynara is Scarlett's half-sister, although that relationship, of course, can never be recognized in the milieu of GWTW. In TWGD, everybody knows, but no one is allowed to say it out loud.

Cynara is smart and clever and willing to do whatever she needs to make a life for herself after she is expelled from Tara because she started to look way too much like both her father and her half-sister. The book is her story of survival, as well as her commentaries on

those who remained on the plantation and those who escaped it.

Randall has a sharp eye for detail, as well as a highly developed sense of the absurd and grotesque, and her observations are pointed and perspicacious. Consider the character of Mammy, for example. Cynara does, with devastating accuracy: "They call her Mammy. Always. It feels she wasn't big enough to have a name." *The Wind Done Gone* is a great read, one that goes a long way toward correcting the misconceptions spawned by its predecessor.

Pagan events

Perhaps you've been wondering what pagans are up to these days. You have a chance to find out before John Ashcroft declares Paganism unconstitutional, when editors V. Vale and John Sulak, contributor Charles Gatewood, cartoonist and longtime pagan Trina Robbins (author of *Eternally Bad: Goddesses with Attitude*) and others discuss the newly-released compendium *Modern Pagans*, on July 19, 7 p.m. at The Booksmith, 1644 Haight St.

Still furious with Ralph Nader? Thank him for the Republican efforts to destroy the environment, to gut the Clean Air Act, to bring the world closer to nuclear disaster than ever in the past 50 years. Let him know what you think, assuming free speech hasn't been declared illegal between now and July 12, when Cody's presents Nader discussing *Crashing the Party: Taking on the Corporate Government in an Age of Surrender*. Tickets at Cody's only, \$10, or \$5 with the purchase of *Crashing the Party* or *A Ralph Nader Reader*; proceeds benefit The Center for Study of Responsive Law, a nonprofit Nader organization. The event takes place at 7:30 p.m. at The First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley.

On a happier note, Don Weisse discusses the extraordinary new anthology from Cleis, *Black Like Us, at A Different Light* on July 21, 2 p.m. ▽

Contact Book Report at DeborahPeifer@msn.com.

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Chastity's innocence

by Alex Robertson Textor

The End of Innocence, Alyson, \$22.95

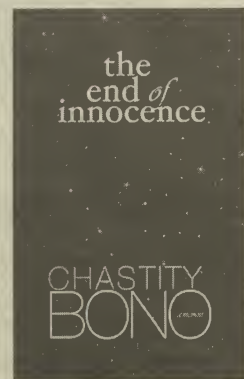
The lives of the children of celebrities are *sui generis*, unto themselves. Regarded with envy and disdain, celebrity kids certainly lead pressured lives. They are like American royalty, though they don't tend to live with the royal assurance they will someday claim a crown themselves. They do, however, often inherit celebrity itself, and they are inevitably brought into comparison with their parents. In the case of Chastity Bono, these pressures are no doubt particularly fierce. Her mother is Cher. How much closer to iconicity can one get?

The End of Innocence, Bono's second book, does not reflect on

the rarity of its author's background as an extraordinary fact unto itself. The presence of celebrity parents merely contextualizes a narrative of Bono's life in her early 20s. It follows her through the formation of her band Ceremony, and the difficulties the band had with their label, Geffen. The real heart of *Innocence* emerges in Bono's story of falling in love with Joan Stephens, a friend of her mother's, 23 years her senior.

Innocence follows Bono and Stephens as they fall deeply in love, only to see Stephens' cancer return. Bono recounts stories of Stephens' illness and death with excruciating detail. This is a difficult story to read, harrowing in its sadness, and full of the heart-breaking minutiae of bodily deterioration.

Bono stresses that "this book is



not a biography. It's a part of my life, a story about some things that happened to me." *Innocence* is a

page 45 ▸

Sickness

'Sicks in the City' CD

by Bob Roehr

Snatchmaker, Snatchmaker, make me a snatch. I'll be re-assigned, open my hatch. Snatchmaker, Snatchmaker, look through your book, and make me the perfect snatch," they sing to Yenta, the gender-reassignment surgeon in a parody based on that old chestnut from *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Yes, folks, it can only be America's dragapella favorites the Kinsey Sicks, back to wow us with their third CD, *Sicks in the City*.

Fans of the beautyshop quartet will find more of what they have come to expect: smart lyrics with a comic bite, tight harmonies, and some bad-ass singing that blows you away.

This offering of 18 tracks

mines a rich lode of Broadway and Pop classics, filtered through the brilliantly twisted mind of Ben Schatz, to yield a cornucopia of commentary on gay and Jewish mores.

"Locked Out of the Chapel of Love" updates the Dixie Cups' 1964 hit with a gay twist: "We'll say we can't because we can't say I do... One-thousand tax breaks will never be mine... Locked out of the Chapel of Love." Bitter words are juxtaposed against the sugary melody in high irony.

The Sicks have always been ones to offer advice, such as "Cruise People Uglier Than You." "They will be so grateful when you look their way that they will buy you lots of things, and you should never, ever pay."

They go on to singingly suggest, "Screw people less experi-



The Kinsey Sicks: Pop classics filtered through twisted minds.

enced than you. They'll never know how truly bad you are in bed, if you use teeth when you

give head or simply lie there like you're dead. For once in your life you won't be the worst, so if you have the urgin', simply find yourself a virgin, they won't know how bad you are when you're first."

"Silver Bells" becomes "It's Crystal Time in the City" ("People dancing, people dancing, people dancing, people dancing... O little town of Methlehem.")

The 1973 Maureen McGovern hit "Morning After" becomes a

plea, "Don't Let There Be a Morning After," when it comes to tricks. "Dark bars at 12 make you sexy, don't push your luck in natural light... Tonight I fall for Suzanne Summers, but will you spring into Shelly Winters in the morn'?"

Gays' rapture with IKEA is captured to the tune "Maria" from the musical *West Side Story*, while the erotic lure of "Bali Hai" (*South Pacific*) becomes "MCI," lamenting the bane of telemarketers. "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" gives a tongue-in-cheek paean to real-estate developers as "Bugle Boy of Avenue B."

"Dubya" sets up the President with lines like: "Just smile to the left, and march to the right, showcase folks of color so we don't look all-white, keep the major donors out of sight, just get a thousand points of GOP light. Tastes great, less chilling."

The Kinsey Sicks are back from a road trip to Pride festivals around the country, and are ensconced in Provincetown at the Crown & Anchor through the summer. ▼

www.kinseysicks.com

Becoming Amy Ray

Interview with an Indigo Girl

by Gregg Shapiro

After more than a decade of writing songs, recording albums and touring, Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, the Indigo Girls, continue to dazzle and amaze. *Become You* (Epic), their latest studio album, is a warm, earthy album, destined to become a classic. After two albums that found the Atlanta-based out lesbian duo exploring a harder-rocking sound, they return to the acoustic arena of their earlier releases. But *Become You* doesn't rehash. It finds Ray and Saliers growing as singers and songwriters, always willing to try something new and unexpected. "You've Got To Show" shows Saliers is perfectly comfortable with jazz vocal phrasing, while Ray rocks out full-force on "Yield." The Indigo Girls play the Greek Theatre in Berkeley on July 13.

Gregg Shapiro: After the Indigo Girls veered towards a harder edge, *Become You* has a smoother, acoustic sound. Were

the previous discs efforts to get that out of your collective systems, or do you foresee a return to that rockier style in the future?

Amy Ray: Nothing is ever like, "Let's get it out of our system." It's more like, "Where are we at right now?" I felt like we needed to make a record in a more spontaneous way. We hadn't done anything acoustic like this in quite a while. It just felt like it was time. I could see us doing another record that's very layered, produced and has a lot of grooves on it, because we really enjoy doing that and we know people now that are good at that kind of production.

There's a vintage soul quality to "Moment of Forgiveness." Have you been listening to a lot of Otis Redding?

No, that started out as a country song. I listen to soul and R&B, and Emily turns me onto a lot of the newer stuff. But I can never write in that way, really. But our keyboard player came up with that riff, and it just threw it right into the Carole King, soulful kind of territory.

Emily wrote the song "Our Deliverance." Was it written in response to the events of 9/11?

Yeah. The second day of rehearsal for us was when 9/11 happened. We ended up having that as almost a backdrop for our whole record: what was on the TV, constantly thinking about it. I know part of the song that feels like a response definitely is.

It's good to know that your integrity is still intact.

I think it is. I mean, you never know. It could be slipping without me realizing it. ▼



Amy Ray (left): "Emily turns me on to a lot of the newer stuff."

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



Rauschenberg curator Jonathan Katz

Coded art

It's been a long time coming, but the Queer Cultural Center's spiffy new fine-art gallery in the SF LGBT Community Center is finally open, and it boasts a world-class inaugural exhibition, "Robert Rauschenberg: From the Collection of Terry Van Brunt," which beautifully demonstrates the power of queer studies to alter the way art historians approach their work.

The exhibition is curated by the always dynamic Jonathan D. Katz, Ph.D., former chair of the Department of GLBT Studies at City College of San Francisco, founder of Harvey Milk Institute, and the first tenured faculty in gay and lesbian studies in the U.S. For more than 20 years, Katz has studied the work of Rauschenberg, who emerged as a force in the 1950s with his silkscreened photographs, found objects, and collage, and has secured a reputation as one of the most important artists of our time. This new retrospective, painstakingly assembled and interpreted by Katz, sheds light on some of the artist's earliest and most central work.

"None of these images have ever been publicly shown before," said Katz on a tour of the exhibition, which takes up both of the gallery's rooms. "They were all made for Terry Van Brunt, who was Robert Rauschenberg's studio assistant on and off for about 23 years. As Rauschenberg is here talking to Terry pictorially, so too we can see that in some of the most famous images in American art, Rauschenberg is talking to the other men in his life," including Jasper Johns.

"The whole claim about Rauschenberg being this abstract artist who just randomly produces agglomerations of stuff is revealed here to be utterly fallacious," said Katz. "This is very carefully thought through, highly coded and distinctly personal work. We call this show 'Love Letters' because we think of the pieces as love letters. They are missives — badgering, seductive, occasionally flattering — to a man he wants to hold on to."

Katz said this collection manipulates a series of codes in reference to Van Brunt, and that Van Brunt well understood the kind of communication they engaged in. He added: "Terry straight identified through much of their relationship, so these pictures were seductive gambits to hold Terry and pull him in."

Among the coded elements Rauschenberg put in the works are a pterodactyl, representing Terry's passion for flying (he has a pilot's license, flies ultralights, and hang glides); a boar (an emblem Rauschenberg often uses to reference himself); the torn-off pocket of a favorite pair of Terry's old shorts (salvaged when they were thrown away); and a glass blower's rod and a furnace (the hole in a glass-blower's furnace is called a glory hole).

One of Katz's favorite elements is the drawing of two small cabbages, testicular in form, which he says "rhyme with a painting by Jasper Johns called 'Painting with two balls,' an abstract expressionist brushed field with two small wooden balls stuck in the canvas. Johns made the painting in 1960 as a way of making fun of the macho pretensions of [Jackson] Pollack and [Willem] de Kooning and the abstract expressionists, because Pollack had famously said once that 'I paint with my balls.' So Johns critiques it ironically: Well Rauschenberg, referencing his former lover, Jasper Johns, then uses these balls to poke fun at Terry's macho pretensions in all of his flying. That's the degree of careful work these pictures all carry."

And how did Katz come by these works? "I gave a talk on KPFA on Rauschenberg and sexuality, and Terry was driving home. He had just split with Rauschenberg, and was depressed at the idea that what they had, no one knew about. Then he listens to the radio, and here's this guy talking about how Rauschenberg embeds his personal feelings and emotions to the men he loves. Terry said it was a profound moment. He spent a year looking for me, and finally called me up, and said: 'I want to talk to you. I'm Robert Rauschenberg's former partner.'"

"Robert Rauschenberg: From the Collection of Terry Van Brunt" can be viewed through August 4 in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Gallery in the SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Viewing times are Wed.-Fri., 2-7pm; Sat., noon-6pm; and Sun., 1-5pm. Admission is free (donations welcome). Info: www.queerculturalcenter.org



Jon Sims Center for the Arts

Zutiste Productions presents "Piece of You," a new play by S.M. Peters, starring Matthew Stang and Eileen Fisher. A rising young actor and a fading heiress meet in a diner one night in Hollywood in 1955. He is seeking the fame and fortune she is retreating from. Lust and loneliness overcome them both as they explore what lies beneath the surface of success. Based on a true story. Playwright/director Sue Peters is a local writer and journalist whose works have been published widely. \$10. 8pm. Also July 19-21. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Tix/info: 846-2175; 552-7871.

Yerba Buena Gardens

SF Opera Center presents "Brown Bag Opera," free live operatic entertainment as part of the 2002 Yerba Buena Gardens Festival. Singers from the SF Opera's Adler Fellowship Program include sopranos Tiffany Abban and Greta Feeney, tenor Andrew Truett, and baritone Brad Alexander. Monica Vanderveen accompanies on piano. Featuring arias and duets from Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* and L'Elisir d'Amore, Puccini's *La Bohème*, Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Weber's *Der Freischütz*, Britten's *Billy Budd*, and Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*. Free. 12:30pm. 760 Howard St., esplanade. Info: 543-1718; www.ybgf.org

BATS @ Bayfront Theater

Bay Area Theatresports (BATS) presents "The Summer Games." Teams vie for bronze, silver & gold in this fierce competition "dating back to the original improv games in ancient Greece." \$12. 8pm. Fri. & Sat. thru 7/26. Fort Mason Center, Bldg. B. Tix/info: 474-8935; www.improv.org

The Stud

Queer Jitterbugs present "Stud Swings," offering Basic East Coast Swing lesson at 6:30pm. No partner needed. \$5 (NOTAFLOP). From 7:30-9pm, free Jive Dancing with swapping of moves, for practice and fun.

399 Ninth St. (at Harrison). Info: 305-8242; www.queer-jitterbugs.com

Venue 9

Footloose and Three Wise Monkeys Theater Company present the world premiere of Aoise Stratford's "The Ghost of Molly Malone." The worlds of 17th century Dublin and modern Chicago collide in the twin narratives of Stratford's new play. A feisty fishmonger, an eccentric bag lady and a rebellious, young dropout find their destinies entwined in this epic tale of love, persecution, alienation, and acceptance. Inspired by the Irish figure Molly Malone, this play is everything she was: funny, moving, sexy, provocative... and haunting. \$15 (\$12 student/senior). 8pm. Thru Aug. 3. 252 Ninth St. (at Folsom). Tix/info: 289-2000; venue9.com; threewisemonkeys.org

EXIT Cafe

"The Last of the Red-Hot Dadas," by Kerry Reid, the true story of Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven, starring Christina Augello. The unsung heroine of Dada art, the Baroness reflects on the nature of art, gender relationships, and the price to be paid for telling the truth about both. \$10. 8:30pm. 156 Eddy St. Tix/info: 673-3847; www.DIVAfest.org

SomARTS Gallery

"Dadafest 5: The Last Dadafest Ever," featuring 40 acts and 20 visual artists interpreting the themes of sex and death over two evenings, with hosts Katy Bell and m.i. blue. See astounding acts executed by the likes of Donald the Nut, Steven RaSpa, Carol Queen, Ouchy the Clown, Katt Sammon, Annalee Newitz, Charles Anders, Miki-em, Mike Boner, Sandwich Girl, Charles Gatewood, Sean Kelly, Chris Campbell and dozens more. \$7-\$10 sliding. 8pm (doors open 7pm). Also on Sat., July 13. 934 Brannan St. (btwn 8th & 9th sts). Info: 861-1554; www.dadafest.com



SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for a Three Parks Hike. Enjoy trees jutting almost horizontally from the hillsides in this walk through Redwood, Huck-



"Dadafest 5: the Last Dadafest Ever," kicks off at SomARTS Gallery. See Friday.

leberry and Sibley parks. Moderate 9-mile hike with 1,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9:15am at the foot of the Rockridge BART station escalator. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

A.G. Ferrari Foods, Castro

Eureka Valley Promotion Association presents "Old Country/New Country," a wine tasting and fundraiser for Pink Triangle Park + Memorial. Italian varieties will be compared to American counterparts. Donations at door benefit the park/memorial now in development near the Castro/Market intersection, which will serve as remembrance of LGBT victims of the Nazi regime. Drop in anytime from 5-8pm to participate. 468 Castro St. Info: www.evpa.org

GAPA @ Herbst Theatre

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) presents "Runway 2002," the 14th annual Mr. and Miss GAPA Pageant. Reigning titleholders Man Ong and Eryka Ameryka crown their successors in this unique showcase combining traditional pageantry with boundary-pushing self expression. Candidates are free to explore their utmost limits of creativity. Hosted by Tita Aida. Featuring performances by the GAPA Dance Company and the Men of Na Lei Hulu I Ka Waikele Dance Company.

Judges: Neela Banerjee (Editor-in-Chief, AsianWeek); Brian Cheu (Executive Director, SF LGBT Community Center); Victor Hall (Executive Director, Filipino Task

Force on AIDS); Jay Kobayashi (Gold Medalist, 2002 U.S. Adult National Figure Skating Championships); Reggie Lee (stage, television & film actor; *The Fast and the Furious*); Patrick Makuakane (Director, Na Lei Hulu I Ka Waikele Hula Dance Company); and Tamlyn Tomita (stage, television & film actress; *Joy Luck Club*). \$20-\$50. 7pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 392-4400; www.tickets.com; www.gapa.org

Oceanic Society

"Farallon Islands Nature Cruise," a naturalist-led excursion to the Farallon Islands Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge, the largest seabird rookery in the eastern Pacific south of Alaska. \$69-\$66 per person; group rates available. Open to all (age minimum 10; an adult must accompany youths under 15). Check-in time 7:45am; boat leaves 8:30am. Duration: Approx. 8 hrs. Vessel: 56' Coast Guard certified, insured diesel motor vessel Superfish with open observation deck and enclosed salon (limited indoor seating). The captain is experienced in nature cruises. Bring lunch and beverages. Trips go rain or shine. Bldg. E, Fort Mason Center. Tix/info: 474-3385; www.oceanic-society.org

Mechanics' Institute

Bastille Day concert: "La Joie de Vivre." Mezzo-soprano Sylvie Braitman and Belgian harpist Dominique Piana premiere a program of French art songs by Krumpoltz, and famous songs by Bizet, Debussy, Fauré, godard, Hahn, Massenet, Poulenc and Satie. Melodies inspired by the poetry of Hugo, Mallarmé, Lamartine and others. \$15 (\$12 members). 8pm. 57 Post St. Info: www.mliblibrary.org

A Traveling Jewish Theatre

Opening night: Second Wind Productions presents playwright Ian Walker's "The Stone Trilogy," three one-acts that portray the face of love, forgiveness and oppression in Ireland, South Africa and the U.S. In "Erin's Hope," a dark stranger approaches the "True IRA" with an offer to "media spin" their cause to the American public. The risks involved pit father against daughter, brother against brother, and young love against the forces of history. In "This History of Stone," a young black South African and a female archaeologist discover a cave filled with ancient African paintings; the appearance at their



Christina Augello stars in *The Last of the Red-Hot Dadas* at EXIT Cafe. See Friday.

site of a white South African creates an explosive atmosphere. "An Accident of Identity," explores the accessibility of medicine in the US, and the subtle dynamics of economics, race and sexual orientation. \$13-\$20. 8pm. Fri & Sat. thru Aug. 3. Also on Monday, July 15. 470 Florida St. (near 17th St.). Tix/info: 820-1460

StudioZ

Opening night: Jeff & Gary present "Zodiac," a new weekly dance/music/art club, with special opening night guests Matmos, the queer SF duo famed for their esoteric electronica sounds, which earned them honor of becoming Bjork's electronica wizards. With resident DJs Jeff Chandler (Reform Skool; Star69), Joseph Lee (Ball of Pride; Progress), Solar (Sunset Parties; Pacific Sound), Discovery (Grooveyard; Reform Skool), Travis (original Liquid), and Monkeyboy (Reform Skool; Star 69). \$15 (free b411pm w/flyer). 21+ w/D. 314 11th St. (at Folsom, the former Transmission Theater). Info: 252-7666.

Space550

Gus presents "Metropolis," with DJ Frank Abraham at the turntables in the main room, plus Mr. Jon P and Jason G in the Green Room and Jim Hopkins in the Red Room. \$20. 10pm-sunrise. 550 Barneveld (btwn Oakdale & Industrial, off Bayshore Blvd). Info: guspresents.com

Sun

Amnesia

"Club KY," the city's hot indie/punk/queercore music club for freaks of all genders and their friends. Spike & Jacob spin the newest, loudest, and most menacing US/UK indie, noise-pop, electronic and pUnk rock sounds around on vinyl, cd and mp3. 10 pm-2am. 853 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). 21+ w/D. Second AND Fourth Sunday of every month.

Foley's Cellar

"Unnatural Acts," a vaudeville cabaret emceed by female impersonator Doll-ya Hoffman-Kaufman-Steinberg. This Bastille Day dinner show features performances by mentalist Bob Tatin, bubblesmith Sterling Johnson, burlesque by Mrs. Wendee Key, Russian psychic Madam Natasha, musical guests Shit Karate, chantuese Kitten on the Keys, Mr. Mystic and more. \$10. 7pm. 241 O'Farrell (at Cyril Magnin). Tix at door or advance at TIX booth, Union Sq. Garage.



Alan Reade performs Bear-A-Go-Go! at Club Fab in Guerneville. See Thursday.



Brian McDonald's "one big one" opens Wednesday at Dolores Park Cafe.

The Women's Building

Leaders for a Better Society Program/Justice Matters Institute (JMI) presents "Culture With Conscience," the 1st Annual JMI Arts Gathering, an afternoon of community building among artists/activists, featuring performances by: Francis Wong, Leon Lee, Matthew Shenoda, Pat Payne, Jimmy Biala, Lenora Lee, John Carlos Perea, Jen Shyu, Lewis Jordan, Negmeddin Shaheen and others. Strengthen and forge relationships between yourself and artists/activists from throughout California. Take part in a discussion about cultural activism, social consciousness and artistic expression. Free. 2-6pm 3543 18th St. (btwn Valencia & Guerrero). Info/RSVP: 353-5735; www.justicematters.org

Mon

QComedy at The Center

"QComedy Showcase," the fabulous hit "Monday Night Gay Comedy" night, this week hosted by LA-based comedian Shari Vasseghi. Also appearing: Dana Cory, Maggie Dolan, Erin Souza, Bob Douglas, Simone Alexander, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding. Doors open 7:30pm; show at 8pm. Tix/info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org; QComedy.com

Cowell Theater

Summerfest/dance, producers of "West Wave Dance Festival" (July 11-28), presents a "Choreographers & Composers Consortium," a panel discussion about the methods and means of collaboration between choreographers and composers. Panelists include choreographers Brenda Way (ODC/SF), Alonzo King (LINES Ballet), Nancy Karp (Nancy Karp + Dancers), and composers Leslie Stuck, Paul Dresher, and Edmund Campioni. Moderated by dance writer Rita Felciano. Free. 7pm. Ft. Mason Center.

Tue

Diamond Senior Center

Foggy City Dancers host "Introduction to Square Dancing." New dancers welcome. No need to bring a partner, but you can if you'd like. Foggy City Dancers, like most square dance clubs, uses a common format that enables dancers from all over the world to dance using the same calls and steps. The gay clubs, however, often add unique styling and flourishes. Since many gay square dancers both lead (gent) and follow (pet), they are considered ambidextrous and thus are generally better dancers with an excellent sense of position and orientation. Free. 7:30pm. 117 Diamond St., basement. Info: www.foggycity.org

Wed

Dolores Park Cafe

Opening reception: "one big one," new paintings by Brian McDonald, whose edgy, urban, irreverent canvases collide childhood fantasy with adult reality. Says McDonald: "My paintings are saturated in bitter disappointment. . . They express the way I see myself and others in a society that is both overly stimulating and overly demanding. My cartoon-like figures never quite live up to societal ideals and, as a result, are filled with anger, frustration, emptiness, and desire." Plus this is a cool space to hang out in. Free. 6-8pm. 501 Dolores St. (at 18th St., across from Dolores Park). Info: 863-0507; sillydilly.com

Thu

Club Fab, Guerneville

Performance/recording artist Alan Reade performs "Bear-A-Go-Go!" A piece that takes on the conventions about gay men and body image by humanizing the characters and giving voice to an unrecognized segment of gay culture. Reade pulls no punches as he reveals how one subculture marginalizes another through body fascism. Featuring furry go-go dancers lap dancing for the audiences during Reade's costume changes. Among Reade's new characters is "Pornobear," aka Ram Hard-en, who worries about his place on the bear A-list as he starts losing his chest hair. Followed by the film *Leather Jacket Love Story*. \$10 (\$5 w/"Lazy Bear Dogtag"). 9pm. 16135 Main St., Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-5708.

Visual Aid @ The Center

Opening reception: "positive too," a Visual Aid Group Exhibition, curated by Liz Oppenheimer. Featuring works by Paul Alley, Rob Anderson, Chuck Bierwirth, Richard Bolingbroke, Gregg Cassin, Dismas Corde, Bob Corti, Rob Costin, Charles Matthews Drees, Ernest Ely, David Faulk, Martin Freeman, Jerry Frost, Joel Hoyer, Matthew Hudson, Michael Johnstone, David King, Michael Lownie, Jack McCarty, Mark Paron, Dan Pillars, Nevin Robinson and Steven Wybenga. Free. 5-7pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St., 4th floor lobby. Info: 865-5556; www.visualaid.org

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA
94103

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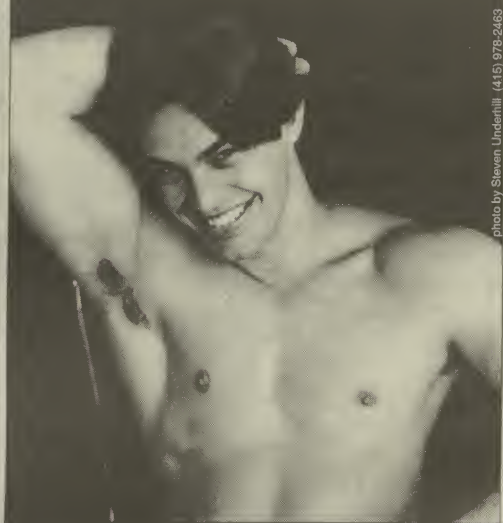


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The Leather female title holders in the 2002 Pride Parade included (from left) SF Dyke Daddy "Vick," Dyke Diva Billie, Dyke Girl "Kim", and Dyke Boy "Bronze" leading the leather contingent.

Coast to coast leather

by Mister Marcus

The leather communities across the nation were out and proud from coast to coast last weekend as pride parades were staged in major cities. In New York, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles (a week earlier) and San Francisco, leather contingents comprised large segments of each LGBT parade.

I could be wrong, but San Francisco's leather community appears to be in first place as far as numbers, and this claim can be further validated by the following facts:

- Total groups involved: 23.
- Total number of people in the contingent: 396, which included 115 motorcycles.
- Parade monitors: 48 (a record for any contingent since the parades began).
- Placement in the parade: 24th.
- Total exclusive on-air TV coverage (WBTB-TV Channel 20): 6 minutes, 10 seconds.

The SF Leather Contingent also won the "Absolutely Fabulous" Contingent Award, and beneficiaries from voluntary bike fees and for-profit businesses will go to the Inter-Club Fund's Grant Fund and the NCSF. A lot of hard work paid off handsomely for all that participated. Now that's leather pride! There are a lot of

people to thank for this successful project, but they know who they are. A million thanks to everyone involved! You were never lovelier.

Chicago, New York and Houston had a considerable leather presence, but at my deadline, no facts were forwarded to me. I can say this though: the leather titleholders were spread out all over the place. International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather Alan Spo and Black X, Int'l. Mr. Drummer and Boy, Gary Vandeventer and Mark Greene were in the New York parade. International Mr. Leather Stephen Weber was in the Houston parade (after all, he IS also Mr. Texas Leather)

and in San Francisco, Mr. Leather Mexico (Leo Suarez) shared the stage with Mr. SF Leather Peter Jackson. Our leather contingent had its own grand marshal, Alan Selby, not to mention all the local leather titleholders. All that is, except for one "boy" type who seems recalcitrant to represent his title in any capacity except for thrill rides on the "great white way"! What a disappointment.

Let's hear it for the hotels!

As many of you may know, those loving, caring Christian women in our nation who have undertaken to Save The World From Fags, are still out there, trying to deny us our inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pur-

suit of happiness.

It's no secret that the Concerned Women of America and the American Family Association have gathered their forces to try to keep major hotel chains and lesser motel and independent hostleries from renting space/accommodations to our people/events. They had the nerve to picket the Hyatt Chicago for IML 2002, and in some cases have succeeded in ousting scheduled leather events at various hotels with threats of nationwide boycotts of hotels that allow gay (and especially leather) events on their premises.

Yet, thankfully, there are those who would not surrender to these fanatical demands. Business is business, and gay/leather money is out there to be had. If GLBT people ever decide to make a Profiles-In-Courage list of those individuals and companies who cannot be swayed by fanatic Christian groups, they must surely include innkeepers who stand up against these ignorant radicals.

Chief among those who deserve our thanks, respect, admiration and our business:

- Patrick Grady, manager of the Washington Plaza in Washington, DC. Francis Syron and Tom Mamalis of the Radisson Hotel on Mockingbird Lane in Dallas;

- Kuldip Singh and Lorena Cordova of the Ramada Plaza in San Francisco.

- Chris Hanson of the Palmer House in Chicago

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Friday, July 12

SF Rubber Party 1 at Blow Buddies (933 Harrison) at 2130 tonight, with rubber dress code. \$12 at the door. For more info click on: www.rmsf.org or call toll-free 425-944-0440. Another First in Faghdad!

Weekend, July 12-14

Mr. and Ms. Alameda County Leather Contest weekend will be held in Hayward, with a meet & greet on Friday at the Turf Club, and contest on Saturday at Hill & Valley Club. It's a benefit for Women's Cancer Research and Tri-City Health Center. For more info click on: www.alameda-countyleather.org.

Thunder in the Mountains in Denver all weekend long with contest, play parties, workshops, etc. No info at my deadline. Also International Mr./Ms. Deaf Leather at the Washington Plaza in Washington, DC, plus the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir and Boy contests in the same venue. Busy busy in the capital!

In Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, it's the BC Leather Sir/Boy contest at the Curling Club, and the full weekend package is only \$30, plus a play party (\$25) and vendor fair (\$5).

Saturday, July 13

2nd in a lecture series at Leathermasters in San Jose, "SM as Art," featuring Evil Mommy Tina from 1400-1700, only \$5.

Sunday, July 14

Castro Lions Club annual Leather Auction, offering a patio full of bargains, with Tom Rodgers the auctioneer. Beer/bus, and food. \$8 from 1500-1800 at the Eagle Tavern. Always great leather bargains at this event!

July 17-22

Lazy Bear Weekend up at the Russian River. Scads of activities (over 30 events!) The theme: just be lazy and have fun! For all details, click on www.lazybearweekend.com.

Liberty, equality, fraternity!

by Sweet Lips

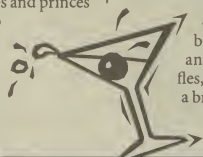
Don't you just love fraternizing? I do! Especially with French men. I always love a man with a French accent, especially if he's whispering sweet nothings in my ear over a cocktail or two. Well, lucky me, the French are coming!

Yes, it's true, on the occasion of Bastille Day this Sunday, July 14, the Transfer bar at Church and 14th Streets will be filled with French kissers. It's "Ooh La La — A Bastille Celebration," presented by the Grand Duke Council of San Francisco (www.sfdual.org) together with the Royal Crown Prince Gerard and the Royal Crown Princess Alexis Luv. The show starts at 5 p.m., and promises to be a hit, with great entertainment, an auction, and raffle items.

Now, I don't mean to be picky, but isn't it a bit ironic that members of our local royalty should be celebrating Bastille Day? After all, that French holiday commemorates the occasion when Parisians rose up against the monarchy in

1789. They marched on the dreaded Bastille, the King's prison, shouting: "Down with the King!" and "Off with his head!" Well, I trust there will be no beheadings at The Transfer, but just the thought that it could happen again should keep those Royals in their place. The dukes and princes had better be nice to the gay Parisians at the Transfer, or the peasants could rise up and put some royal heads on the chopping block!

But that's not the only thing happening on Sunday. Over at Mr. Lee's Ona's Cocktail Lounge at Turk and Leavenworth, Hal Gage and Mr. Lee's Ona's 5-Star Lounge present "The 5th Annual Christmas in July," a pageant to benefit the Night Ministry, with emcees Pushy Phyllis and Davida. There will be a plant auction, a raffle, a dazzling show, and Hal Gage's fabulous brunch. The festivities start at noon and continue until the last reveler is still standing. For more details, call 292-9803.



Cocktail Hour

Here at my home away from home, Club Rendez-Vous on Polk at Bush St., we're holding a big "Pajama Party" on Saturday, July 13, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come as your favorite Saturday morning cartoon character, or in your PJs, have some cereal,

and watch morning cartoons! There will be prizes for best PJs and costume, plus raffles, grab bags, trivia, and a breakfast buffet catered by none other than Dennis Tyler. The affair is hosted by Grand Duke XVII Greg Osmon and

Grand Duchess XVIII Angelina Josephina Manicotti.

Finally, those of you who have seen my lovely painted portrait and commented on its superb quality should know that the artist, Ray McWade, has just moved from Seattle to the Big Island of Hawaii, where he will continue to paint gorgeous vistas and proud portraits. Good luck, Ray! Now I know I have someplace to crash in Hawaii! ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

• Tom Pagels of the Hyatt Chicago.

At my deadline, I was unable to obtain the name of the manager of the Congress Hotel in Chicago, but if anyone deserves a pat on the back, it's the manager of that establishment.

Among past hostilities: the Executive House, Allerton Hotel and the Radisson in Chicago; the Fairmont, Hyatt Regency, Mark Hopkins, Best Western, Howard Johnson to name only a few in San Francisco. These people deserve our support, so whenever you get a chance, let them know your appreciation.

So what's ahead?

The remainder of July is a kaleidoscope of events all around the country, including three biggies in San Francisco: the 20th SF Leather Daddy Contest, California Leather Man, Woman and Boy contests, and the Dore Alley (Up Your Alley) Fair all on the last weekend of the month. Rooms are booked solid already, and I suspect a few couches are already taken in private homes.

Omaha, Nebraska will be the site of International Ms. Leather contest and the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir/Boy competition in Washington, D.C., plus International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather 2002 are on the calendar. There are many other events around the



The Leather Pride contingent in the 2002 Parade garnered honors and record TV coverage with over 115 motorcycles and a record number of monitors this year. Bravo!

country taking place in July. I hope you can attend a few of them.

In other developments...

DV8 in New York is now Purple Passion/DV8, a larger store with corsets, leather, latex and PVC for men and women. Fred Katz and Mitch Pierce are no longer involved with the store. For info, click on www.purplepassion.com.

So you want to learn how to wield a whip without making an ass out of yourself? A new two-hour instructional video shows you basic and advance throws, from light and sensual to heavy and intense and includes two pair

of actual scenes. Only \$35 plus S/H. Click on www.SingleTailsInTheScene.com for more info.

They say the 2003 NY Fire Department calendar is hot (even the *Good Morning America* staff is impressed). It's \$14.95 plus \$6 S/H from www.store@FdnFirezone.org.

And speaking of calendars, the 2003 SOMA Bare Chest Calendar goes on sale at the Dore Alley Fair, and it is a stunner! Be sure to check out their booth on Sunday, July 28th.

So long for a while. To keep up with what's happening in the leather world, click on www.L LeatherPage.com. ▼

wonderful idea for Dolly. That project is just beginning, and my contract isn't even done. It's not set, but I love the idea.

Tell me about *Miss Spectacular*.

It's the first time that I've ever done an album before I had a show. It's a really smashing album, beautifully orchestrated. Where the show goes from there, I don't have any more idea than you do. It was written for Las Vegas. It's a very light, charming book musical, with very short scenes in-between big pro-

duction numbers, because I thought that's what Vegas audiences would appreciate. I wanted the world to hear new work from me.

Harvey Fierstein, with whom you co-wrote the musical *La Cage Aux Folles*, is about to make his Broadway musical debut in the musical adaptation of John Waters' *Hairspray*.

I'm so excited about that. I talk to Harvey every week, and he tells me how it's going. He's very jazzed about it. ▼

Jerry Herman

◀ Arts cover

rific actress. We didn't know that when it was Sonny and Cher. We didn't know until *Moonstruck* and *Mask*, and what put her over the top for me was *Tea with Mussolini*, in which she really played a main character. And of course, she can wear that kind of a wardrobe like nobody in the business, and she has the voice for it.

And I think Bette Midler is a

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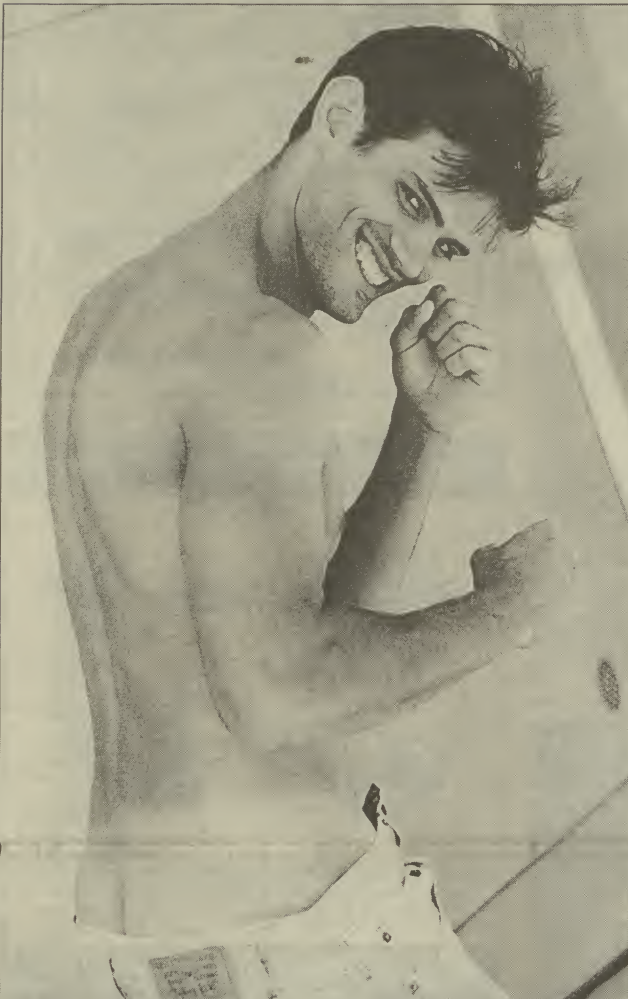
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PARTING GLANCES

Bell Market In Noe Valley On June 17
You, tall, handsome, dark hair, red check shirt ahead of me in check out line, early evening. Me, tall, short dark hair and glasses. You stared. Would like to meet you. ☎ 71882

Adrian, Responding To Ad #71836
Dark eyes olive skin, dark hair. Your six two (6'2"), and work at home and sound great! But, you forgot to leave your #. Please try again, Thank you. Daniel. ☎ 71883

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Goodlooking Asian To Date
Attractive Asian 30, 5'8", slim, clean-cut, masculine, nice boy next door seeks similar attractive GWM 30-40 h/wt, std-free, masculine, clean-cut for dating poss. Ltr. ☎ 71868

"I Want You!!!"
GBM top 50 seeks GWM btm 50-60 yr old for dating, good sex and poss ltr. Me: many interests, articulate and good lover. You: enjoy wearing Panties (silk, nylons-not drag). Must be able to communicate feelings. Be under 6ft tall. No beard, enjoy recreational smoke and aroma and like to cuddle. ☎ 71869

Husky Hot Huggable GWM
44, 5'9", 185lbs, mustache, S&P/ blue. ISO monogamous ltr with GWM, GLM, GFM, 38-50; enjoys movies, romantic evenings, massage, & being together with sincere special guy. ☎ 71870

The Hottest Guy In Town
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

-Asian!~
Young looking, caring GAM, 53y.o., slim, is looking for an older GWM, for relationship. We enjoy quiet times, cooking, traveling. No smoking. ☎ 71884

Strong Sensitive Man
GWM, 56y, 6'2", 179#. ISO romantic at heart, physically attractive, professional, HIV- top or versatile, vanilla to kink, 30-50's, Asian or Jews A+ and desires ltr. ☎ 71885

Adventurous Goodlooking Sexy
49y/o dark eyes olive skin, bottom, 6'1", 190lbs well defined and endowed seeks sexy, honest, intelligent, dark complexion preferred. Ages 35-50. ☎ 71886

Mex-Rican Like 4 Asian/Japanese
I'm 5'8"/155, dark skin versatile or bottom nice round butt husky look medium muscular body: You- under 40, top or versatile, masculine slim, height/weight proportional N/D N/fats or fems. Call now. ☎ 71887

ISO Relationship
GWM, 55, 5'10", 215lbs, Italian, poz, ISO older BM to explore relationship, my hobbies: movies, dining out, music, politics, travel. Oakland. ☎ 71888

Seek Long Hard Nipples To Suck
W/B; goodlooking wants A/W w/smooth body clean shaven who needs top to bottom oral service, you're horny I'm eager to tickle your tits w/my tongue, lips. Hope for ltr. ☎ 71900

Seek Ltr Total Top, Mtg Weekly
Attractive healthy AM in excellent shape wants to play total bottom. You: healthy total top, East/ South/ West Bay, any age/race, N/D, no diseases. ☎ 71889

Athletic & Professional Black
Male, warm, cuddly, friendly, understanding. Available for long-term relationship. Prefer senior citizen type, over 60y.o. Let's talk-- Have a lot to offer. ☎ 71890

Dominant Mature Masculine GWM
ISO submissive, healthy, GWM, well built to train for his pleasure. Clean shaven a plus but not essential. ☎ 71897

-Cute Young Brazilian-
Single, attractive, 36yr old seeks 18-40yr old nice guys for ltr relationship or casual dating, romantic inquiries please. ☎ 71898

Blond Seeks Latins
Goodlooking 37 ft 195lb with a great body seeks Latins, for good times. All responses answered. ☎ 71871

Peninsula Poz Man Boy
Poz, healthy 36, Mexican-Portuguese. Tan skin, runners build looking together poz guys for dating and sensual fun. Nice butts are a plus. ☎ 71899

I Suck. You Fuck. My Ass Awaits.
Midage goodlooking W/B; curious seeks A/W smooth to lite hairy clean shaven who likes being sucked hard to fuck me then willing to suck me to completion steady sex buddy. ☎ 71901

SEEKING ADVENTURE

A Midsummer's Night Dream
Poz, masculine hung satyr top seeks brawny rugged Puck for hours of sexual revelry. Pluses: uninhibited verbal serviceman fearless cocksucker, submissive, squirming, rim'n'ride toughman. ☎ 71872

"I'm The Best In The West!!"
It's time to get Real! Let's play and have some fun. I'm the expert Azn bottom dude for you. Love to do everything that we'll both feel happy n satisfied. ☎ 71873

The Sexiest Guy In Town
Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. ☎ SAFE

Bottom 2b Tied Tortured N Fukt
SM, BD, TT, FF, WS rim CBT VA humiliation. Boy is 35, docile, malleable and eager to please. Sir is dom, clean, sadistic, sane. ☎ 71874

Be My First Queer Butthole
Me: Bi WM 40's HIV- never fucked ass. You: short, fit, clean, small waist, slim hips, HIV-, submissive squeezer. You get blindfolded, fucked at your SF place. Safe only. Viagra? ☎ 71876

ZZTop 4 Trim 4 Cuddle, J0, Sleep
GWM, 56, 5'7", 220, long white beard, hairy, glasses, balding, smoker, HIV- seeks trim guy, all ages/races, for cuddles, J/0, and possible sleeping partner. No anal action. ☎ 71877

LGM Lkg 4 Asian's Top's
Masculine looking and acting bottom, olive skin, bubble ass, 36yrs old, 5'8", 155. You Asian under 40, height/weight proportional husky slender build A+, no fats no fems no drugs. ☎ 71891

The Hottest Guy In Town
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

Big Dick For 69 Wanted
Masculine, discrete dude looking for a hung 69 bud. I'm worked out, aub/grn, age 35, nice cock + balls. You: Big dick, over 35. ☎ 71902

Your Dick In My Mouth
Clean and healthy senior GWM with no teeth will suck it for bi or GWM. ☎ 71875

Bottoms Wanted
Black male top, muscular, hung. Seeking White, Latino bottoms 21-45. Smooth a plus. ☎ 71903

FETISHES

Balls!! Huge Balls That Is!!
If you have them and love to have them looked over your way? Mature gentleman can do this for you. ☎ 71878

English Former Headmaster...
Provides corporal punishment to wicked persons. Days ok. In S.F. ☎ 71879

Bottom In For Pride Week?
Older but hung Black top will pump a mature, masculine guy in his hotel room 6/30 and 7/01/02. Must leave full name. Be serious and experienced, hotel only. ☎ 71880

Teach A Submissive His Place
Otherwise straight WM, 43, 5'10", 195, can be Greek passive (condoms) for alpha male superiors who verbally degrade and piss on him. Heavyset ok. Small groups welcome. External seat considered. ☎ 71881

He's Lean And Mean And Wearing Jeans.
He turns around; I fall to the ground. I kiss his feet; I go into heat. I lie on my back; on my face comes his asscrack. S 71892

S.F. Leather Guy
Seeks others into same- Chaps, jock straps, etc. Into erotic twisted leather action- Leave message. Details and how to reach you. I am White, 35, lean and horny. ☎ 71893

Masochistic Bottom
Submissive bottom boy, 34, 5'10", b/bl, 160, needs strict and severe discipline, training, and control. Please take me to your woodshed, Sir. Have canes, paddles, straps and whips. ☎ 71894

Oral Service Wanted
WLM 47, 6', 165lbs, hairy, stache. I'm looking for a younger M to give me slow, sensual oral service. Effeminate looking & acting A+. ☎ 71895

Regular Rim Buddy Wanted!!
By mature body builder who wants a steady partner for mutual rimming scenes. ☎ 71904

OTHERS

Are You M To F Butch Dyke?
I'm a 30-ish WM who thinks he might be. Would like to discuss process with M to F Lesbian, or others. Excited by all the possibilities. ☎ 71896

Into Latex Sex
Latex sex is hot sex is safe sex! Always wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. ☎ SAFE

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 Seeking Relationship ☐
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BOOKS

Beached!

by Robert Julian

The Summer They Came by
William Storandt; Villard, \$12.95

Summer Share by Chris Kenry,
William J. Mann, Andy Schell,
Ben Tyler; Kensington Books, \$14

Aaah, the boys of summer! Naked bodies now dot the sands of gay beaches from San Gregorio to Provincetown, and publishers have taken note of this phenomenon. This summer, two new releases illuminate the phenomenon of twentysomething gay-boy romance in a utilitarian if predictable fashion.

With a cover that falls somewhere between *Men's Fitness* magazine and pulp fiction, *The Summer They Came* offers no apologies for the double entendre in its title. Author William Storandt, who lives on the Connecticut shore, tells the tale of Long Spit, Rhode Island, a mythical sleepy coastal village just a cum shot away from both Boston and Manhattan. A gaggle of queer movers and shakers decide to turn Long Spit into the next Provincetown, whether the locals like it or not.

Their carefully orchestrated invasion begins with a series of ads in gay publications, promoting Long Spit's tired old hetero bed-and-breakfast inns as the new queer hot spots. Boys start showing up, and the locals go nuts; then they start doing the arithmetic. The influx of queer cash and commercial redevelopment transforms the town in one summer — although in Long Spit, the price of fame is glory holes. And, of course, there are all those naked boys in the sand.

Storandt does not break any new ground here, but he keeps the story moving at a brisk pace. His narrative voice avoids the overworked, dishy tone of many similar beach reads, but Storandt also avoids the juicy sex scenes that are almost *de rigueur* for this type of queer novel. The result is a mildly amusing, good-natured book populated with characters that rarely transcend the level of



stereotype, but never offend.

Summer Share is a collection of four novellas by different authors, each dealing with variations on the theme of gay summer romances. The standout in this collection is the third work, *The Outline of a Torso*, by Andy Schell. *Outline* takes place on the island of Maui, with a reunion of four recent college graduates who last met on Maui six years earlier. One of the guys, who was closeted at the time, outed the other three 16-year-old high school students. Now, six years later, payback seems to be the order of the day. Or is it? Schell demonstrates an intelligent prose voice and a maturity that far exceeds that of the other writers in this collection. His tale of star-crossed lovers comes together with genuine passion and depth of insight.

The only true summer share occurs in *The Perfect Husband* by William I. Mann. *Perfect* is a Provincetown tale of two gay boy "sisters" from Boston who rent a house for the summer. Reluctantly, they take in a hunky third roommate who is appearing as Rocky in a Provincetown production of *The Rocky Horror Show*. On the beach, in the bars, and on the streets, everyone is looking for Mr. Right but settling for Mr. Right Away. Mann captures the P-town rhythm and routine correctly, and his prose voice accurately reflects the cloying immaturity of his characters. Happy ending: dead ahead.

Chris Kerry's *Sugar Daddy* *Summer* opens with some evil husband-hunting queens who mercifully become supporting characters in an unpredictable romantic triangle. Here in Aspen, Colorado, the primary summer romance is intergenerational and involves a person with AIDS. Kerry's novella gets points for originality, and for demonstrating that marrying for money is not necessarily all it might seem to be on the surface. This story has an essential sweetness and generosity of spirit.

The final novella, *Satisfaction* by Ben Tyler, is so insipid and puerile I advise readers to take a pass on it entirely. ▼

Chastity Bono

◀ page 38

memoir of part of a life, and bears comparison to other recent memoirs by younger writers, like Rebecca Walker's *Black, White, and Jewish*, and Kirk Read's *How I Learned to Snap*.

The most obvious concern in such cases is merely how well a writer in her late 20s or early 30s can reflect on a wide arc of her life. To her credit, Bono breaks off a few years of her life for the retelling, sparing herself the difficulty of reflection over the entirety of her life.

Shaping events

An interesting story, *The End of Innocence* suffers a bit from Bono's mild-mannered characterizations of random members of her life's cast, and it loses a bit of its steam in its dense detailing of its author's life. In its rendering of Stephens' illness and death, these details are essential to the story. At other junctures, for example in the long explications of seemingly endless Ceremony studio sessions, such

details are somewhat long-winded and less than riveting.

Bono explained her motivations for writing the book in a recent interview. "I think part of my motivation was a desire to write a tribute to Joan. And I think that it was also such a significant time in my life, and an experience that has really shaped the person that I am. It was something that I wanted to share. It's not something that people have known about in-depth."

About the potential impact of *Innocence* on its readers, Bono said, "I hope that people are moved by it in some way. It's not like my first book [*Family Outing*], which was specifically about helping people come out, and the impact of coming out on gay and lesbian people's well-being. There's no message in this book. It's just what happened to me."

With her collaborator on *Innocence*, freelance writer Michele Kort, Bono is already working on a new book: "Another memoir, looking at my childhood in greater depth, and also dealing with some other stuff I haven't wanted to share until now." ▼

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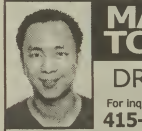
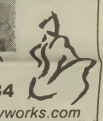


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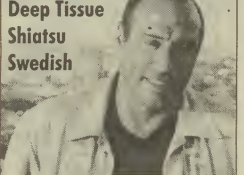
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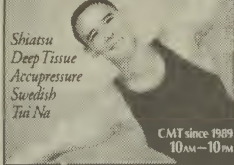
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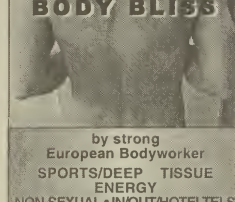
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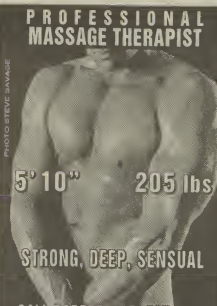
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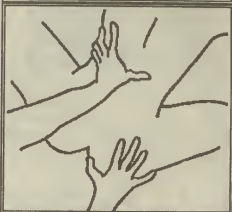
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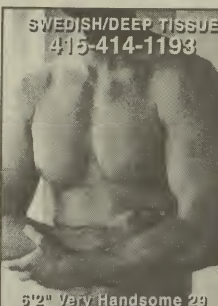
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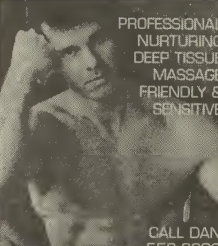
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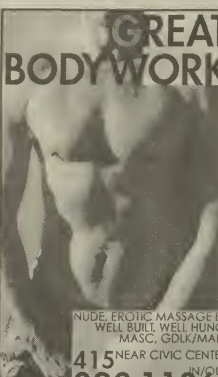
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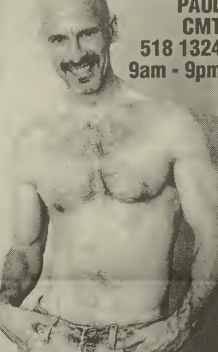
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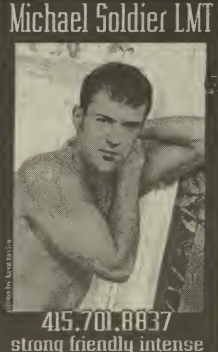


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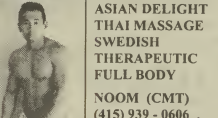
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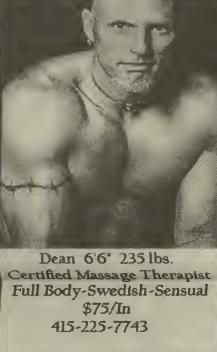
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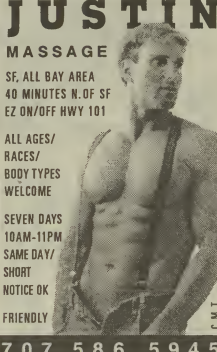
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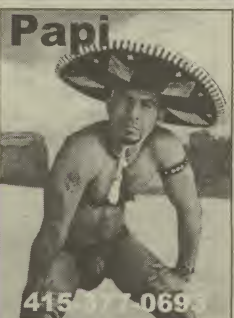
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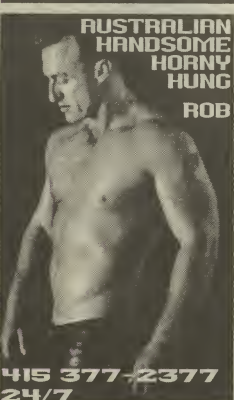
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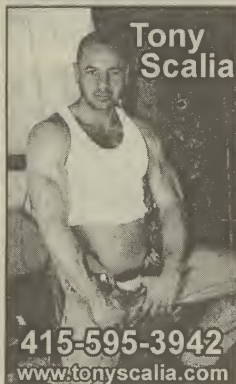
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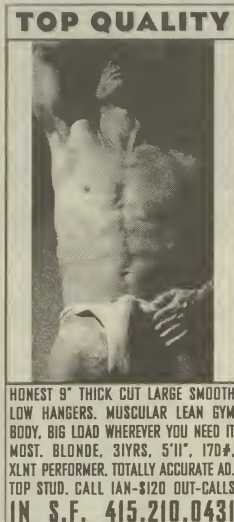
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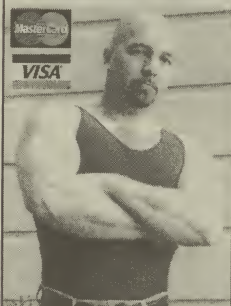
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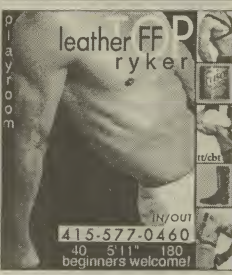


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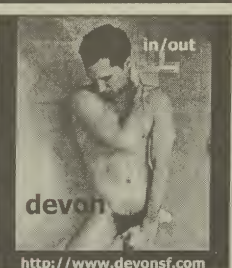
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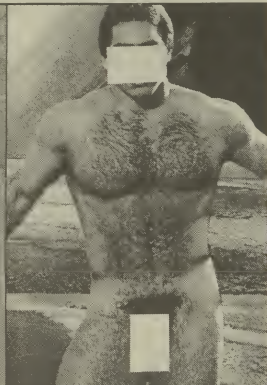
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6'0 • 180# • 10x6 Uncut

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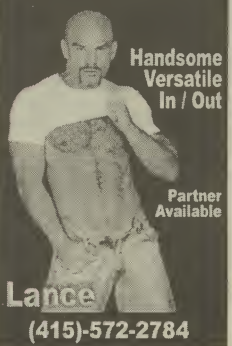


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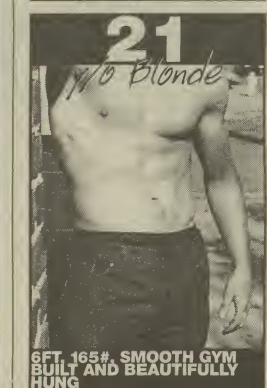
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Bald, daddy, 40, 6, 195#, 9"cut x-thick

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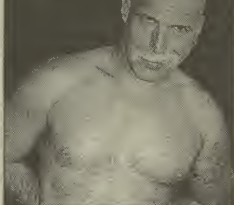
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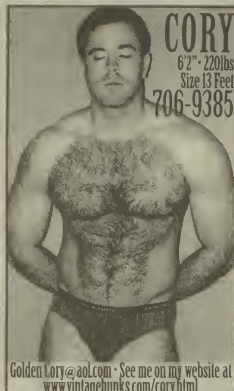
Bald, daddy, 40, 6, 195#, 9" cut x-thick
HIV-, tattoos laid back top/bottom
safe, fun, out only \$120 Mike 431-1437

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Hot blonde w/green eyes 5'7" 135#
SEXY NEW BOYTOY
Hot & horny 22yo smooth/ versatile
in/out calls- Jason 415-210-1526

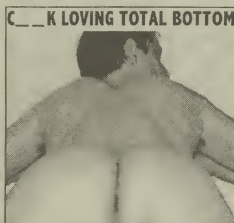
Rob 415 414 0461 5'8" 155# blk/br
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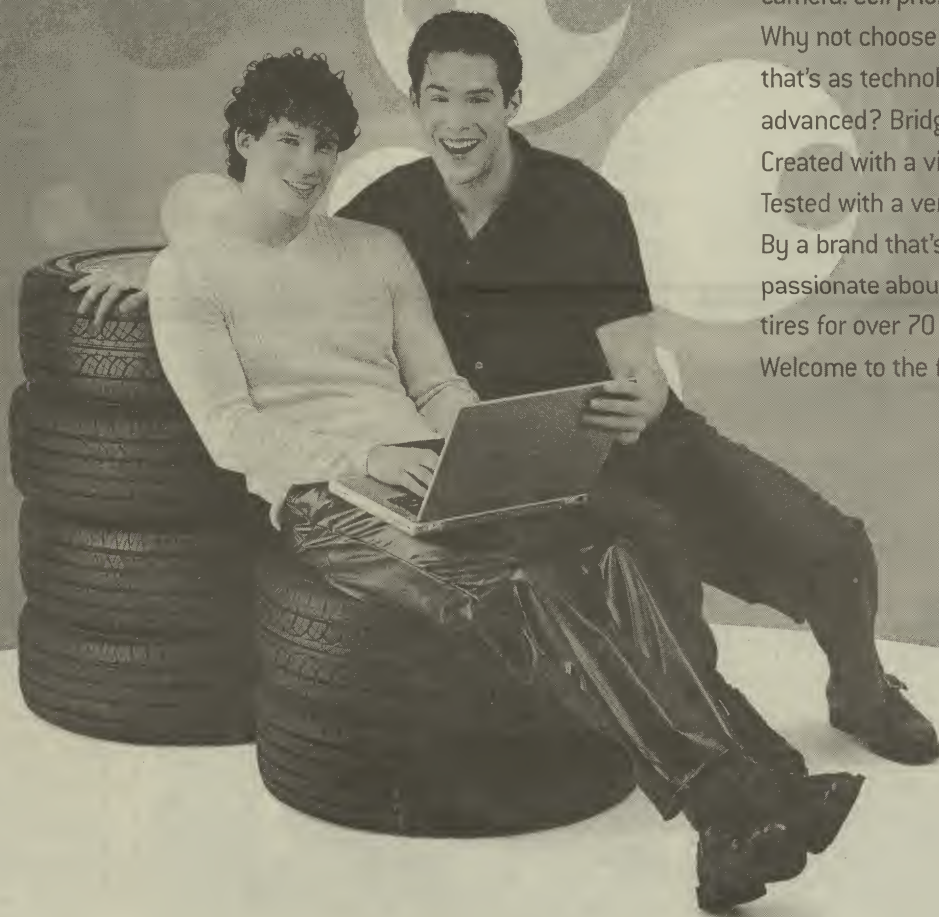
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